

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 7

March 22, 2004

TO ALL LOCAL CHAIRPERSONS:

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

As an on-going process - in the General Chairman's office, we send out Circular Letters as circumstances dictate in regard to issues that are of importance to all of our Membership. We are requesting that you read these documents at your Union Meetings for the Membership's benefit and also place them on bulletin boards for those Members who cannot attend the Union Meeting. Incorporated below are issues of importance for our Membership.

◆ HOURS OF SERVICE ACT INFORMATION

This Office routinely receives inquiries pertaining to the Hours of Service Act. Many of the inquiries pertain to called and released, interrupted off duty periods, reporting locations, and travel time issues. Attached hereto for your reference is the FRA's application of the Hours of Service Act, as it relates to the aforementioned issues.

◆ ENGINEER CERTIFICATION 49 CFR § PART 240

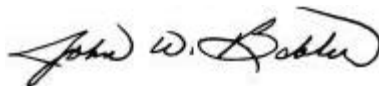
Attached hereto for your reference is the latest version of 49 CFR § Part 240 Engineer Certification regulations, effective October 1, 2003. The Regulations apply to locomotive engineers, and to some degree, remote control operators.

For your convenience, the FRA Hours of Service Act interpretations and the 49 CFR § Part 240 Engineer Certification regulations have been placed in a binder.

Trusting this information will aid you in keeping our Membership informed of issues confronting us.

With best personal wishes, I remain

Fraternal ly yours,



**John W. Babler
General Chairman, G. C. A.**

JWB: j g

cc: Paul Thompson, International President - UTU

Dan Johnson, III - General Secretary/Treasurer - UTU