

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 11

September 1, 2005

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.

UTU Katrina Relief Fund:

International President Paul Thompson has established a relief fund to aid railroad employees and their families who are affected by the devastating hurricane along the Gulf Coast. Many railroad families, including fellow UTU members, have lost their homes and possessions. The UTU will absorb all administration costs associated with the fund, thus 100 per cent of your contribution will be received by a needy family. Any railroad employee, regardless of craft or union membership, is eligible for aid, as are UTU represented bus drivers. Checks should be written to "UTU Katrina Relief Fund", and addressed to:

UTU Katrina Relief Fund
Attn: Cheryl Sneed
United Transportation Union
14600 Detroit Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44107

Please extend your generosity to assist those who are affected by this disaster. Encourage friends and family to contribute to this fund. Unlike many other funds, all of the contributions made will go to those in need, rather than to pay for the management of the fund. Contributions are also tax deductible. Contributions may be made by Locals provided lodge action to approve the contribution is taken. Contributions of more than \$600.00 require a referendum vote.

✍ **United Way Campaign:**

The Union Pacific will be encouraging the support and participation of employees for the United Way beginning in September. The majority of funds contributed to the United Way remain in the local community, and benefit the neighbors of those who donate. Please extend your support to this worthwhile fund.

✍ **Hours of Service Application to Yardmasters:**

Attached is an FRA interpretation of the Hours of Service law as it pertains to yardmasters. Given the multiplicity of job functions performed by yardmasters, hours of service may apply depending upon the tasks performed. If a yardmaster performs duties in which they are “engaged in or connected with the movement of a train”, then they are considered a “train employee” and are governed by the hours of service regulations applicable to train and engine crews. If a yardmaster performs duties in which they “by the use of an electrical or mechanical device dispatches, reports, transmits, receives, or delivers orders relating to or affecting train movements”, then they are considered a “dispatching service employee” and are governed by the hours of service regulations applicable to train dispatchers.

The attached material should be retained as a reference tool for your future use.

Trusting this information will aid you in keeping our Membership informed of issues confronting us and with best personal wishes, I remain

Fraternal ly yours,



Michael J. Reedy
General Chairman, G. C. A.

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Attachment:

cc: Paul Thompson, President - UTU
Rick Marceau, Assistant President - UTU
Dan Johnson, III - General Secretary/Treasurer - UTU