

RED TALES

Issue # 31 August 5, 2009

(612-726-2230) Newsletter of the MSP ESSC Shop Committee (612-201-0383)

Flight Schedule Cutback – According to MSP Operations Director, Bill White, as of August 18 the MSP schedule will be cut from 241 mainline flights per day to 197. On September 1 flights will be cut again to 186. Compass flights will be increased from 39 to 45 per day. DTW will face a similar pull down, going from 266 mainline flights to 206 in September. There are no layoffs anticipated at this time. SLIP Leaves have been offered from August 8 to November 13. These leaves allow those who take them to collect unemployment, keep medical insurance, flight benefits and all their accruals. Overtime will be cut in August to adjust for the flight schedule.

The cutbacks will also mean that an early bid is very likely. While a date for starting a Fall Job Bid has not been set, indications are that it could be by October 1, 2009. Cutbacks will also mean that some farm out of ESEs to assignments other than their bid area will be inevitable.

Sedgewick – As we gain more experience dealing with Sedgewick CMS around FMLA and OJI issues, we want to offer some advice to make interaction with them as smooth as possible.

When you contact Cheri Lindgren to inform her that you will need FMLA or

you contact Sedgewick directly for Intermittent FMLA, ask that paperwork be emailed to you. This way there will be no wait. Once you inform management that you will need FMLA you have 15 days to return completed paperwork to Sedgewick.

Sedgewick has also been asking to record conversations with our members. According to District 143 General Chair, Bill Holloway, you do not have to agree to this. You can ask them to simply take notes. In addition, you do not have to answer any questions or release any records that do not pertain directly to your illness or injury. Please contact us if you are asked questions which are too broad.

Taxes – Please remember that you must pay taxes on any unemployment you receive. Taxes are not automatically deducted from your check.

Benefits – On Friday, August 14 there will be food, raffles and auctions to benefit Dan Klein. Klein is an ESE who was severely injured during an accident on the ramp earlier this year. The activities will be in the CSA break room below the F Concourse from 10AM to 8PM.

A benefit for the Fallen Soldier Program will be held in the same location on Friday, August 7.