



The Four Winds

National Weather Service Employees Organization

In this Season of Giving, A Donation of Medical Leave Can Make a Difference Information on the Leave Transfer Program

(December 12, 2012) NWSEO Members have always been generous with annual leave donations for co-workers in need. This is a tremendous gift to those who may soon exhaust or who have exhausted their leave due to medical issues. **SPC Lead Forecaster, Jonathan Racy** (NWSEO member and former SPC Branch Steward) is in the Leave Transfer program due to his metastasized/stage-4 cancer. His sick leave has been exhausted and he has been using his annual leave since early October.

As the year winds down, some of our members may be in a “use it or lose it” situation and their donated leave time would be a great help.

Here are a few facts about donated medical leave and the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program that you might find beneficial if you are considering donating leave or if you are in need of donated leave time:

1. OPM regulates that only annual leave may be donated. You cannot donate sick leave.
2. Leave donors can specify a member of the Leave Donor Program whom they'd like to receive their donated leave time by completing form complete form OPM-630A. http://www.opm.gov/FORMS/PDF_FILL/opm630a.pdf
3. Any leave that is not used is returned back to the donor.
4. A person does not have to wait until their leave is exhausted before applying to be a recipient of the Leave Transfer Program. They must present medical documentation showing they anticipate that they will be on unpaid status for at least 24 hours.
5. Before a person can accept any donated leave, they must complete the required paperwork, have it processed, and receive notification that they are accepted as a recipient of the Leave Transfer Program. It can take two weeks to process the paperwork, so applicants should apply as soon as they realize the condition is expected to exhaust their leave.
6. Department of Commerce leave rules come straight from OPM. There are no agency specific rules.

If you are able to donate leave time, please complete and submit to your ASA the

http://www.opm.gov/FORMS/PDF_FILL/opm630a.pdf

If you would like to learn more about the Leave Transfer Program, including a full list of participants:

http://www.wfm.noaa.gov/policies/leavedonor_info.html.

If you know of an NWSEO member in need of a medical leave donation and would like us to inform members on the NWSEO.org website, please have them contact NWSEO at mediarelations@nwseo.org.

NWSEO thanks you for your generosity and care!

For additional information, please visit:

http://hr.commerce.gov/Practitioners/CompensationAndLeave/DEV01_006149

http://hr.commerce.gov/Employees/Leave/DEV01_005948