



## NATIONAL RURAL LETTER CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION

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### MEMORANDUM

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**Date:** October 25, 2001

**To:** National Officers, Assistant to Executive Committeemen,  
State Stewards and Assistant State Stewards

**From:** Randy Anderson  
Director of Labor Relations

**Subject:** PTF Entitlement

A clarification regarding the contractual entitlements of PTF's has resulted from recent discussions with the Postal Service. PTF's are entitled to additional work on a "**string route**" under certain conditions. The Postal Service's position is that a PTF is afforded the same opportunities to the extra work on their string routes just as an RCA is on his/her primary route. The PTF is the primary leave replacement on each of the string routes.

This issue either has been or will be discussed at the respective regional stewards' seminars that are being held this fall. Until that opportunity presents itself I have enclosed an attachment that provides a fuller explanation of the clarification.

Thank you.

- Q. A PTF is assigned to three “string routes” with the respective relief days of Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday. After providing service on all three of the relief days in the pay week, the carrier on one of the string routes is/will be absent on Thursday. Is the PTF entitled to the work?
- A. In the above scenario it is likely that the answer is yes. However, it depends on the circumstances. There is an entitlement to the work on the string routes in addition to working the respective relief days, **unless** the total of the hours already worked and the evaluation of the string route on which coverage is needed exceeds forty (40) hours. Management has the right to allow the PTF to exceed forty (40) hours, but the PTF is not entitled to the extra work if it could result in an overtime situation.

Example One: A PTF has the three string routes alluded to above and they are all evaluated at 9 hours. The PTF has worked the three relief days and has a total of twenty-seven (27) actual hours worked. The opportunity also alluded to above then presents itself. The PTF would be entitled to work for the carrier who is off on Thursday.

Example Two: The facts are the same as in example one except the PTF has also worked Wednesday on a non-string route and put in eight (8) hours of actual work giving the PTF a total of thirty-five (35) hours for the work week. The PTF can be denied any additional work opportunities for the remainder of the work week. However, management may choose to utilize the PTF regardless of the potential for overtime.

(NOTE: This entitlement is not in conflict with the parties’ agreement that a PTF is not entitled to work a string route full time should the regular carrier be on extended absence or a string route becomes vacant. *Ref: Analysis to the Agreement, page 50-Question & Answer # 61.*)