

AFGE LOCAL 2505

February 17, 2004

Horace Dickerson, Regional Commissioner
Social Security Administration
Dallas Region – Office of the Regional Commissioner
1301 Young Street, Suite 130
Dallas, Texas 75202-5433

Dear Regional Commissioner Dickerson:

This is an Article 24, Section 10 Grievance by AFGE Local 2505 concerning the failure of Muskogee management to take proper precautions to insure the safety of the public and the employees in the Muskogee District Office.

On Thursday, January 29, the entire management team (DM and two supervisors) took approximately 2 hours for lunch. They failed to inform the individual, who, per the Muskogee hierarchy, would have been the officer in charge, that they were leaving.

It is understood by all Muskogee employees that only a member or management or the officer in charge can telephone the police, fire or ambulance or grant leave in the event an employee gets sick or has a personal emergency.

In a worst case scenario, incoming phone calls to alert the office to a situation requiring that the doors be locked or that the office be evacuated go to the management phone lines which, because management didn't tell the employees that no member of management was going to be in the officer, are unanswered in such circumstances. In a best case scenario, there is no emergency, but public service is diminished because phone calls to the management lines are unanswered, again, because the officer in charge wasn't notified so that incoming phone calls to the management phone lines were answered.

In the Muskogee Occupant Emergency Plan, Management and the supervisors are listed with specific responsibilities. The failure of management to notify who so ever was going to be the officer in charge could, potentially, have resulted in injury or death to the employees and members of the public.

Muskogee Management's total dereliction of duty and failure to notify the officer in charge is unconscionable. It violates the unnumbered management's rights language of the National Agreement as well as Articles 1, 2, 3 and 9.

As remedy: The Union wants SSA clearly and specifically notify whomever is to be in charge when there is no member of management (i.e., the manager or supervisors) on duty and in the office.

The Union requests an oral presentation. The Union's representatives in this matter will be: Ralph de Juliis and Judy Norton. Please contact Ralph de Juliis at 918-581-6300 to arrange a mutually agreeable time for the oral presentation.

This grievance with an original signature is being mailed to the above address. It is being faxed to (214) 767-6148.

Sincerely,

Ralph C. de Juliis
Executive Vice President
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cc (by e-mail):

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Mike Lyons, Area Director