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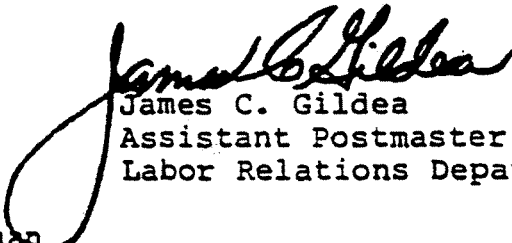
Dear Mr. Newman:

This is in response to your letter of August 18, 1980, concerning the seniority policy for a full-time regular (FTR) employee who exercises the option to change to part-time flexible (PTF) status in lieu of involuntary reassignment under Article XII, Section 5.C.5.b.(5).

Determination of seniority stems from language appearing in craft articles which specify when seniority is retained or lost. Since such contract language does not require a loss of seniority for the FTR employee who opts to change to PTF status in the same craft and installation, such an employee retains his craft seniority on the PTF seniority list.

Mr. Weitzel's letter of January 7, 1976 to Mr. Andrews, merely points out that such an employee is considered for conversion to FTR status based upon his seniority standing on the PTF seniority list and not because of any assumed favored status.

Sincerely,

  
James C. Gildea  
Assistant Postmaster General  
Labor Relations Department

Mr. Forrest M. Newman  
Director, Industrial Relations  
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
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