

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN THE  
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
AND THE  
AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, AFL-CIO

The parties agree to recognize the following as nationally established policy regarding a steward's request to leave the work area while on-the-clock to interview a non-postal witness:

In accordance with Article 17 of the 1981 National Agreement, a steward's request to leave his/her work area to investigate a grievance, shall not be unreasonably denied. Subsequent to determining that a non-postal witness possesses relevant information and/or knowledge directly related to the instant dispute under investigation, a steward may be allowed a reasonable amount of time on-the-clock, to interview such witness, even if the interview is conducted away from the postal facility. However, each request to interview witnesses off postal premises must be reasonable and viewed on a case by case basis. For example, it is not unreasonable for a supervisor and/or steward to telephone the prospective witness to ascertain availability and willingness to be interviewed and, if willing, to establish a convenient time and locale.

In witness whereof the parties hereto affix their signatures below this 6 day of November 1982.

For the  
United States Postal Service:

W. E. Y. [Signature]

For the  
Union:

[Signature]