



On The Move

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Double Time for Coronavirus Hazard Duty Pay

SEPTA is trying to convince the public that all is well, with union members and management cooperating in this time of crisis. Unfortunately, SEPTA is misleading the public, as it applies its usual “double standard” in response to the coronavirus crisis.

SEPTA is implementing a Saturday schedule that unnecessarily forces many senior operators to work on a Saturday or Sunday. Even worse, the picking will result in a lot of operators without a run who will be required to report to their locations in large numbers, violating the social distancing policy advocated by every public health professional involved in the crisis.

In addition, SEPTA is failing to supply our members with the personal protective equipment they need to minimize their exposure to the virus. We are not being provided with the gloves, masks, or hand sanitizers we need to safeguard our health and safety. At the same time, there is not enough being done to sanitize the buses, trains, facilities and shop equipment that could easily become a source of transmission of the virus.

Meanwhile, SEPTA managers over at 1234 Market Street are allowed to work at home, cancel important meetings, including meetings of our joint health and safety committees, whose role should be heightened, not eliminated during this health crisis, and keep their distance from the employees they are supposed to supervise.

Our members recognize that we play an essential role in the life of the City and surrounding counties, especially in the midst of a devastating health crisis. However, if we are expected to perform hazardous duties, we are entitled to receive hazard duty pay. That’s why the Local is circulating a Petition demanding hazard duty pay for the duration of the coronavirus crisis.

The Petition demands that SEPTA be required to pay “double time” for all work hours performing “hazardous coronavirus duty.” We have to stand united if we are to get the respect and compensation we deserve. So please sign the Petition when it comes to your location.

We Must and We Will