

Philip D. Murphy, Governor
Sheila Y. Oliver, Lieutenant Governor
Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Commissioner
Kevin S. Corbett, President & CEO

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Via E-mail to jjohnson@utulocal60.com

April 17, 2020

Mr. Jerome Johnson
General Chairman SMART/UTU
8 Wilson Avenue, 3rd Fl.
Newark, NJ 07105

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This is in response to your email dated April 14, 2020 to Laura Wooding, Director Medical Services. In that email you raised two questions. Your questions and the appropriate answers are follows:

1. Are we delaying 2nd quarter re-cert physicals due to the current COVID-19 situation?

Yes, all periodic physicals including recerts have all been extended as per Supplement Bulletin Order 1-415B effective 4:02 P.M., Wednesday, April 15, 2020. This Bulletin states:

Locomotive Engineers, Conductors and Assistant Conductors (all Trainmen) born in April and May will have until the end of June 2020 to obtain a physical.

Based on the above Bulletin information, this means that anyone that needs their periodic physical in April or May can schedule it for the rest of April, May, or June.

As we are all aware, this is an ever-evolving situation that requires frequent re-evaluations; if we find we must extend further than June, we will advise through the Bulletin Order process.

2. Are MD40's for members attempting to return to work being forwarded to the proper departments?

Yes, Medical Services sends MD-40s to the appropriate departments. As you know, there is an extremely high volume of employees out of service for various medical reasons and who are seeking to return to service. The Medical Department is working as quickly as possible to avoid any delay in returning these employees to work. If employees are seeking to return to work from a COVID19 related absence, i.e. after being cleared by a doctor after recovering from a positive test result or quarantine, they must first call the NJ TRANSIT Coronavirus hotline at (888) 890-0729. This hotline is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Calling the hotline will significantly improve the timeliness of processing the information and required documentation.

While your email had specific membership related questions, you continue to direct personal criticism in an antagonistic and disruptive manner towards Ms. Wooding. To that end, any further questions or concerns you may have should be directed solely to James Devine, Director, Labor Relations. James will take all questions and concerns through the proper channels for a prompt response directly to you.

We all have a role in this response to keep employees safe and prevent the spread of the disease, while providing a critical service to the communities we serve.

We thank you for your attention and look forward to a constructive working relationship.

Very truly yours,

Steve Drayzen

S. M. Drayzen
Deputy General Manager
Labor Relations & Administration

Cc: K. Corbett
R. Kenny
J. Kwon
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