



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and Stockyards
Administration

Stop 3614
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-3614

**Memorandum of Agreement
Between
American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)
National Council 237
And
The Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS)
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

This agreement amends two articles in the "Labor-Management Agreement Between the Federal Grain Inspection Service and the National Council of Federal Grain Inspection Locals, American Federation of Government Employees (AFL-CIO)," [collective bargaining agreement] effective July 24, 1984:

- Article 16 Section 9.D; and
- Article 29, Section 4

The aforementioned collective bargaining agreement was submitted to USDA's Office of Human Resources Development on May 22, 2012, for "Agency Head Review" as required by 5 USC §7114(c)(1).

On June 22, 2012, Mr. Ronald S. James, Employee and Labor Relations Officer, USDA's Office of Human Resources Development, sent the attached memorandum to Mr. Alan R. Christian, Acting Administrator, Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration, notifying him that the collective bargaining agreement is disapproved because Article 16, Section 9.D and Article 29, Section 4 are "inconsistent with law, rule or regulation." The memorandum from Mr. James explains the problems that were found during the "Agency Head Review" process and suggests revised language to bring the articles into conformance with current government-wide regulation.

Accordingly, National Council 237 and FGIS agree to amend the language in Article 16, Section 9.D and Article 29, Section 4 to read as follows:

- Article 16, 9.D: Upon request, assisting employees affected by an action under this Article in use of the services of the Interagency Career Assistance Plan for Displaced Employees and the Career Transition Assistance Plan for Local Surplus and Displaced Employees and training benefits under State Employment Agencies in accordance with 5 C.F.R. 351.803.

Memorandum of Agreement

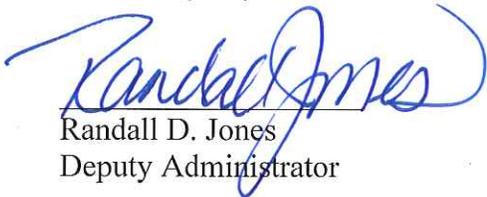
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- Article 29, Section 4: Absences for purposes of personnel arrangements when non-receipt of paychecks results in an immediate financial hardship will be excused in accordance with 5 C.F.R. 610, Subpart C.

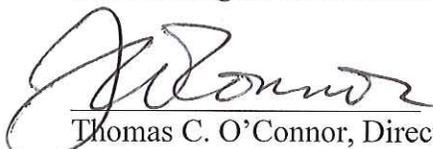
Upon execution of this Memorandum of Agreement, the Office of Human Resource Management will be notified that both sides have agreed to amend their collective bargaining agreement to address the issues discussed in the June 22, 2012, memorandum from Mr. James with a request that it be approved forthwith.

Agreed to on May 14, 2013

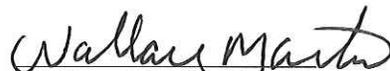
For the Agency:

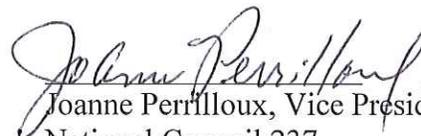

Randall D. Jones
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For the Union:


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National Council 237


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