

Form 1

**NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
THIRD DIVISION**

Award No. 37673
Docket No. SG-37276
05-3-02-3-262

The Third Division consisted of the regular members and in addition Referee Robert M. O'Brien when award was rendered.

PARTIES TO DISPUTE: (Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen
(Union Pacific Railroad Company)

STATEMENT OF CLAIM:

"Claim on behalf of the General Committee of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen on the Union Pacific (UP):

Claim on behalf of A. R. Jarnegan, for payment of the difference between the rates of pay of Assistant Signalman and that of Signalman commencing on the date assigned on Bulletin "Assgn0201", and continuing until this violation ceases, account Carrier violated the current Signalmen's Agreement, particularly Rules 56 and 80 when on January 12, 2001 it abolished the Claimant's position forcing him to displace on a lower rated position. Carrier's File No. 1263997. General Chairman's File No. N56 80-165. BRS File Case No. 11915-UP."

FINDINGS:

The Third Division of the Adjustment Board, upon the whole record and all the evidence, finds that:

The carrier or carriers and the employee or employees involved in this dispute are respectively carrier and employee within the meaning of the Railway Labor Act, as approved June 21, 1934.

This Division of the Adjustment Board has jurisdiction over the dispute involved herein.

Parties to said dispute were given due notice of hearing thereon.

Prior to January 12, 2001, Signal Gang No. 4032 was performing signal construction work on the Carrier's commuter operations. The gang was headquartered at Berkeley, Illinois. C. J. Bendowski was the Carrier's Manager of Signal Construction who supervised the gang. Signal Gang No. 4032 consisted of:

One Signal Foreman
Two Assistant Foremen
Two Signalmen

On January 12, 2001, Signal Gang No. 4032 was abolished. A new gang, Signal Gang No. 4048, was established on January 12, 2001, with headquarters at Western Avenue in Chicago, Illinois. Manager of Signal Construction C. J. Bendowski supervised this gang. It was made up of:

One Signal Foreman
One Assistant Foreman
Three Assistant Signalmen

The Organization filed a continuing claim on behalf of the Claimant for the difference in pay between the Signalman classification and the Assistant Signalman classification. It is the Organization's position that the Carrier abolished all five positions on Signal Gang No. 4032 and, on the same bulletin, established five new positions on Signal Gang No. 4048 for the purpose of reducing the Signalmen's rate of pay in violation of Rule 56. The Organization stresses that the two signal gangs had the same hours, same rest days and the same Manager of Signal Construction. They also performed the same work on the Carrier's commuter operations, according to the Organization.

The Carrier denied the claim alleging that it did not abolish the positions on Signal Gang No. 4032 and establish new positions on Signal Gang No. 4048 "for the purpose of reducing the rate of pay or evading the application of the rules in this [Signalmen's] agreement." Rather, Signal Gang No. 4032 was abolished because the signal project on which they were working was completed. The Carrier maintains

that the new signal gang was established with a different headquarters to work on a different signal project.

It is instructive to note that on February 23, 2001, when the Organization filed the instant claim, Claimant A. R. Jarnegan had no seniority as a Signalman. Rather, he was an Assistant Signalman with approximately six months of service. Therefore, even if the Organizations' position were correct, the Claimant could not have bid on a Signalman's position. Accordingly, he would not be entitled to the difference between the Signalman's rate of pay and the Assistant Signalman's rate of pay. Consequently, the issue of whether Rule 56 was violated as alleged by the Organization need not be reached.

AWARD

Claim denied.

ORDER

This Board, after consideration of the dispute identified above, hereby orders that an Award favorable to the Claimant(s) not be made.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
By Order of Third Division

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 21st day of December 2005.