

**NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
THIRD DIVISION**

Award No. 36097
Docket No. CL-36445
02-3-00-3-677

The Third Division consisted of the regular members and in addition Referee John B. LaRocco when award was rendered.

PARTIES TO DISPUTE: (Transportation Communications International Union
(CSX Intermodal Terminals, Inc.

STATEMENT OF CLAIM:

“Claim of the System Committee of the Organization (GL-12663) that:

The following claim is hereby presented to the Company in behalf of Claimant Mr. J. W. Snelling.

- (a) The Carrier violated the Clerks' Rules Agreement effective July 1, 1979, particularly Rules 24, 40 and other rules, when it failed to call and work Claimant Mr. J. W. Snelling for the Programmer, Symbol 353, hours 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. on August 9, 1999 located at the Trail-Van Terminal, Columbus, Ohio and instead assigned and permitted clerk Mr. M. S. Fickell to work this position after being off sick from August 6 and 7, 1999, and would not be available to work overtime until he had worked his regular position at 11:00 p.m. on August 10, 1999.
- (b) Claimant Mr. J. W. Snelling must now be allowed eight (8) hours pay at the appropriate punitive rate of pay for August 9, 1999 on account of this violation.
- (c) Claimant is qualified, was available and should have been worked in accordance with Rules 24, 40 and others.
- (d) This claim has been presented in accordance with Rule 45 and must be allowed.

- (e) Carrier is in violation of Rule 45(a) when it did not answer the claim within 60 days at the initial level.”

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.

In this claim, the Organization alleges that the Carrier violated the Agreement when it called a clerical employee junior to the Claimant to work a Programmer position on August 9, 1999 at the Carrier's Trail-Van Terminal at Columbus, Ohio. However, the Organization progressed the claim to the Board solely on the issue of time limits. Thus, the Board dismisses the merits of the claim for want of prosecution.

The record reflects that the Carrier received the claim on August 13, 1999. The Carrier's denial letter was postmarked October 12, 1999, the 60th day following the Carrier's receipt of the claim. The Organization's District Chairman received the Carrier's denial letter on October 14, 1999, the 62nd day following the Carrier's receipt of the claim.

The issue in this case is, does the postmarked date on an envelope containing the Carrier's denial letter constitute the material date for purposes of applying the 60-day time limitation in Rule 45(a) of the Agreement?

The Board adjudicated an identical issue in Third Division Award 36095. We ruled that the Rule 45(a) time limitation runs from the date the Carrier receives the claim until the date that the Organization receives the Carrier's denial letter. For the reasons more fully stated in that Award the Board held that the postmark on the

envelope containing the denial letter does not stop the running of the 60-day time limitation. Rather, to satisfy the limitation, the Carrier's denial must reach the Organization within 60 days after the Carrier receives the claim. Per Rule 45(a), this claim is sustained "as presented."

To reiterate, the merits of the claim are dismissed.

AWARD

Claim sustained in accordance with the Findings.

ORDER

This Board, after consideration of the dispute identified above, hereby orders that an award favorable to the Claimant(s) be made. The Carrier is ordered to make the Award effective on or before 30 days following the postmark date the Award is transmitted to the parties.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
By Order of Third Division

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 22nd day of July 2002.