

MASTER AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

**THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE,
COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES,
DISTRICT COUNCIL 20,
AFL-CIO**

AND

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

EFFECTIVE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

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PREAMBLE

The District of Columbia Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act (D.C. Law 2-139, Title I, Chapter 6, Subchapter 1, D.C. Official Code § 1-601.02) states that the Council of the District of Columbia declares that it is the purpose and policy of this act to assure that the District of Columbia Government shall have a modern flexible system of public personnel administration, which shall “provide for a positive policy of labor-management relations including collective bargaining between the District of Columbia and its employees”

The District of Columbia Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act (D.C. Law 2-139, Title 1, Chapter 6, Subchapter XVIII, (D.C. Official Code) Section 1-617.01) states [t]he District of Columbia Government finds and declares that an effective collective bargaining process is in the general public interest and will improve the morale of public employees and the quality of service to the public.

The District of Columbia Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act (D.C. Law 2-139, Title 1, Chapter 6, Subchapter XVIII, (D.C. Official Code) Section 1-617.01(b) provides for collective bargaining between the Mayor of the District of Columbia and labor organizations accorded exclusive recognition for employee representation for employees of the District of Columbia Government.

Pursuant to the District of Columbia Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act (D.C. Law 2-139, Title 1, Chapter 6, Subchapter XVIII, (D.C. Official Code) Section 1-617.10), various local unions or District Council 20 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, (herein “AFSCME” or the “Union”) have been certified and/or recognized as the exclusive collective bargaining agent for employees of the District of Columbia Government (hereinafter the “District” or the “Employer”).

Accordingly, AFSCME and the District enter into this Agreement, which shall have as its purposes:

- (1) Promotion of a positive policy of labor-management relations between the District of Columbia Government and its employees;
- (2) Improvement of morale of employees in service to the District of Columbia Government;
- (3) Enhancement of the quality of public service to the citizens of the District of Columbia;
- (4) Creation of a government that works better; and
- (5) Promotion of the rights of District of Columbia Government employees to express their views without fear of retaliation.

AFSCME and the District of Columbia Government declare that each party has been afforded the opportunity to put forth all its non-compensation proposals and to bargain in good faith. Both parties agree that this Agreement is the result of their collective bargaining and each party affirms its contents without reservation. This Preamble is intended to provide the background and purpose of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Alleged violations of the Preamble per se will not be cited as contract violations.

ARTICLE 1 **RECOGNITION**

Section 1 – Recognition:

The District of Columbia Government (hereinafter referred to as the “District” or “Employer”) hereby recognizes as the sole and exclusive representative for the purpose of collective bargaining, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, District of Columbia District Council 20, and its affiliated Local Unions (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Union" or "AFSCME") for each of the bargaining units under the personnel authority of the Mayor for which AFSCME is the certified collective bargaining representative.

Section 2 - Bargaining Units Descriptions:

This Agreement may also include agencies with independent personnel authority if they have executed an addendum opting to be covered by the provisions herein.

Section 3 - Coverage:

AFSCME, the certified exclusive representative of all employees in the bargaining unit referenced above, shall be responsible for representing the interests of employees in the units without discrimination as to membership; provided, however, that an employee who does not pay dues or service fees may be required by the Union to pay reasonable costs for personal representation.

Section 4 – New Units:

Bargaining units of employees under the administrative jurisdiction of the Mayor of the District of Columbia certified during the term of this Agreement shall be covered by the provisions of this Agreement, if agreed to by the parties.

Section 5 – Unit Clarification(s):

The Union and the Employer shall file a Joint Petition with the Public Employee Relations Board (hereinafter referenced as PERB) to clarify and correct inaccuracies contained on the current unit certifications. Prior to filing of the joint petition, the Union and Employer shall confer on the revised unit descriptions.

ARTICLE 2
MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

Section 1 – Management Rights in Accordance with the Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act (CMPA):

(a) Management's rights shall be administered consistent with D.C. Official Code §1-617.08, 2001 edition as amended.

(b) All matters shall be deemed negotiable except those that are proscribed by this subchapter. Negotiations concerning compensation are authorized to the extent provided in Sections 1-617.16 and 1-617.17.

Section 2 - Impact of the Exercise of Management Rights:

Management rights are not subject to negotiations; however, in the Employer's exercise of such rights, the Union may request the opportunity to bargain the impact and effects, where there has been an adverse impact upon employees regarding terms and conditions of employment.

ARTICLE 3
UNION RIGHTS AND SECURITY

Section 1 – Exclusive Agent:

The District shall not negotiate with any other employee organization or group with reference to terms and/or conditions of employment for employees represented by AFSCME. AFSCME shall have the right of unchallenged representation in its bargaining units for the duration of this Agreement in accordance with PERB Interim Rules, Section 502.9(b).

Section 2 – Meeting Space:

Upon request at least one day in advance, the Employer will provide meeting space as available for bargaining unit business. Except as provided elsewhere in this Agreement, meetings will be held on the non-work time of all employees attending the meetings. The Union will be responsible for maintaining decorum at meetings on the Employer's premises and for restoring the space to the same condition to which it existed prior to the meetings.

Section 3 – Access to Employees:

The Union shall have access to all new and rehired employees to explain Union membership, services and programs. Such access shall occur during either a formal orientation session or upon

such employees' reporting to their work site within thirty (30) calendar days of employees' appointment or reappointment.

Section 4 - Dues Checkoff:

The Employer agrees to deduct union dues bi-weekly from the pay of employee members upon proper authorization. The employee must complete and sign Form 277 to authorize the withholding. The amount to be deducted shall be certified to the Employer in writing by the appropriate official of District Council 20. It is the responsibility of the employee and the Union to bring errors or changes in status to the attention of the Employer. Corrections or changes will be made at the earliest opportunity after notification is received but in no case will changes be made retroactively. Union dues withholding authorization may be cancelled upon written notification to the Union and the Employer within the thirty (30) calendar day period prior to the anniversary date of this Agreement. When Union dues are cancelled, the Employer shall withhold a service fee in accordance with Section 5 of this Article.

Section 5 - Service Fees:

In keeping with the principle that employees who benefit by the Agreement should share in the cost of its administration, the Union shall require that employees who do not pay Union dues shall pay an amount (not to exceed Union dues) that represents the cost of negotiation and/or representation. Such deductions shall be allowed when the Union presents evidence that at least 51% of the employees in the unit are members of the Union.

Section 6 – Cost of Processing:

The Employer shall deduct \$.05 per deduction (dues or service fee) per pay period from each employee who has dues or service fees deducted. This amount represents the fair value of the cost to the Employer for performing the administrative services and is payable to the Office of Labor Relations and Collective Bargaining.

Section 7 - Hold Harmless:

The Union shall indemnify, defend and hold the Employer harmless against any and all claims, demands and other forms of liability, which may arise from the operation of this Article. In any case in which a judgment is entered against the Employer as a result of the deduction of dues or other fees, the amount held to be improperly deducted from an employee's pay and actually transferred to the Union by the Employer, shall be returned to the Employer or conveyed by the Union to the employee(s), as appropriate.

ARTICLE 4
LABOR-MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

Section 1 – Labor-Management Partnerships:

Consistent with the principles of the D.C. Labor-Management Partnership Council, the parties agree to establish and support appropriate partnerships within the individual agencies covered by this Agreement. The purpose of such partnership will be to promote labor-management cooperation within a high-quality work environment designed to improve the quality of services delivered to the public.

Agency partnership should ordinarily be made up of equal numbers of high-level officials of labor and management who will meet regularly to consider such issues as they choose to discuss. Decisions by the partnership are by consensus only.

Section 2 – Labor-Management Contract Review Committee:

Appropriate high-level management and union representatives shall meet at least monthly, at either party's request, to discuss problems covering the implementation of this Agreement. The findings and recommendations of the Contract Review Committee will be referred to the Director for action. The Director or his/her designee shall respond in writing to any written finding and recommendation of the committee within a reasonable period.

ARTICLE 5
DISCRIMINATION

Section 1 – General Provisions:

The Employer agrees that it will not in any way discriminate against any employee because of his/her membership or affiliation in or with the Union or service in any capacity on behalf of the Union. Each employee of the District Government has the right, freely and without fear of penalty or reprisal:

- (1) To form, join and assist a labor organization or to refrain from this activity;
- (2) To engage in collective bargaining concerning terms and conditions of employment, as may be appropriate under this law and rules and regulations through a duly designated majority representative; and,
- (3) To be protected in the exercise of these rights.

Neither party to this Agreement will discriminate against any employee with regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, matriculation, physical handicap, political affiliation, or as otherwise provided by law.

Section 2 – Equal Employment Practices:

The Employer agrees to vigorously continue the implementation of its Equal Employment opportunity Program as approved by the Director, D.C. Office of Human Rights. For the purpose of this Agreement, the Department/Agency's Affirmative Action Plan will be observed. Progress reports will be sent to the Union periodically as to the implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan.

The Union shall designate an Affirmative Action Coordinator who shall, upon request, attend meetings of the Department's Affirmative Action Counselors, and be permitted to meet with Department EEO officials to discuss implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan including Departmental policies and programs.

Vacancy Announcements for Departmental vacancies shall be posted at all work locations. One copy of the notice shall be supplied to appropriate Union Shop Stewards.

Section 3 – Discrimination Charges:

Any charges of discrimination shall be considered by the appropriate administrative agency having jurisdiction over the matter and shall therefore not be subject to the negotiated grievance procedure.

ARTICLE 6
UNION RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1 – Union Stewards:

Union Stewards shall be designated by the Union and shall be recognized as employee representatives. Union Stewards shall be employed at the same work area or shift as employees they are designated to represent. When a union steward is transferred by an action of management (not including promotion or transfer at the employee's request), the steward may continue to act as a steward for his/her former work site for a period not to exceed 45 days from original notification. The Union will supply the Employer with lists of stewards' names, which shall be posted on appropriate bulletin boards. The Union shall notify the Employer of changes in the roster of Stewards. Stewards are authorized to perform and discharge union duties and responsibilities, which may be assigned to them under the terms of this Agreement.

Section 2 – Performance of Duties:

Stewards shall obtain permission from their immediate supervisors prior to leaving their work assignments to properly and expeditiously carry out their duties during a reasonable amount of official time to be estimated in advance whenever possible. Before attempting to see an employee, the Steward will obtain permission from the employee's supervisor. Such permission will be granted unless the employee cannot be immediately relieved from his assigned duties, in which case permission will be granted as soon as possible thereafter. If the immediate supervisor is unavailable, permission will be requested from the next highest level of supervision. Requests by Stewards for permission to meet with employees and/or by employees to meet with Stewards will not require prior explanation to the supervisor of the problems involved other than to identify the area to be visited and the general purpose of the visit i.e., grievance investigation, labor-management meetings, negotiation sessions, etc.

A Steward thus engaged will report back to his/her supervisor on completion of such duties and return to their job. The employer agrees that there shall be no restraint, interference, coercion, or discrimination against a Steward in the performance of such duties.

Section 3 – Union Activities on Employer's Time and Premises:

The Employer agrees that during working hours, on the Employer's premises and without loss of pay, in accordance with Article 6 of this Agreement, Union representatives shall be allowed to:

- A. Post Union notices on designated Union bulletin boards (with a copy given to the Employer);
- B. Attend negotiation meetings;
- C. Transmit communications authorized by the District Council and Local Union or its officers to the Employer or his/her representative;
- D. Consult with the Employer or his/her representative, District Council and Local Union Officers, other Union representatives or employers, concerning the enforcement of any provisions of this Agreement, and other Labor-Management activities. Official time does not include internal Union activities; and
- E. Solicitation of Union membership and distribution of literature shall be confined to the non-working time of all employees involved and out of sight of the public.

Section 4 – Visits by Union Representatives:

The Employer agrees that representatives of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees whether local, Union representatives, District council representatives, or

International representatives shall have full and free access except in secured areas, to the premises of the Employer at any time during working hours to conduct Union business. Advance notification will be given to the appropriate supervisor of the facility to be visited to permit scheduling that will cause minimal disruption of the work activities.

Section 5 – Union Insignia:

The Employer agrees that the employee has a right to participate and identify with the Union as his/her representative in collective bargaining matters; therefore, the Employer agrees that such identification devices as emblems, buttons and pins supplied by the Union to the employees within the bargaining unit may be worn on their uniforms, except for uniformed police.

Section 6 – Official Time:

Union representatives who engage in labor management activities during working hours shall indicate on the “Official Time Report” the activity performed. No Union representative will be disadvantaged in the assessment of his/her performance based on use of documented official time while conducting labor management business.

REPRESENTATIONAL FUNCTIONS OF OFFICIAL TIME (Activity)

1	Labor negotiations.
2	Contacts between employee representatives and employees provided for in the negotiated grievance procedure.
3	Grievance meetings and arbitration hearings.
4	Disciplinary or adverse action meetings, if the Union is designated as representative of the employee.
5	Attendance at an examination of an employee who reasonably believe he or she may be the subject of a disciplinary or adverse action and the employee has requested representation.
6	Attendance at board or other committee meetings on which the Union representatives are authorized membership by the Employer or the Agreement.
7	Attendance at meetings between the Employer and the Union.
8	Attendance at agency recognized/sponsored activities to which the Union has been invited.

Distribution: Original to Office of Labor Relations & Collective Bargaining
 Copy kept by Supervisor & Union Representative

ARTICLE 7 **DISCIPLINE**

Section 1:

Discipline shall be imposed for cause, as provided in the D.C. Official Code § 1-616.51 (2001 ed.).

Section 2:

For the purposes of this Article, discipline shall include the following:

- a. **Corrective Actions:** Written reprimands or suspensions of nine (9) days or less;
- b. **Adverse Actions:** Removal, suspension for more than nine (9) days; or a reduction in rank or grade or pay for cause.

Section 3:

Discipline will be appropriate to the circumstances, and shall be primarily corrective, rather than punitive in nature. After discovery of the incident, the investigations shall be conducted in a timely manner and discipline shall be imposed upon the conclusion of any investigation or the gathering of any required documents, consistent with the principle of progressive discipline and D.C. Office of Personnel regulations.

Section 4:

If a supervisor has reason to discipline an employee, it shall be done in a manner that will not embarrass the employee before other employees or the public.

Section 5:

Unless there is a reasonable cause to believe that an employee's conduct is an immediate hazard to the agency, the employee or other employees, or is detrimental to public health, safety or welfare, an employee against whom adverse action is proposed shall be entitled to at least thirty (30) days advance written notice of proposed adverse action (or fifteen (15) days if corrective action is proposed). The notice will identify the causes and the reasons for the proposed action.

Section 6:

Recognizing that the Union is the exclusive representative of the employees in the bargaining unit, the Department shall in good faith attempt to notify the Union of proposed disciplinary actions. Each Department shall notify the union of the method of notification. Further the Employer agrees

to notify the employee of his or her right to representation in corrective or adverse actions. The material upon which the proposed discipline is based shall be made available to the employee and his/her authorized representatives for review. The employee or his/her authorized representative will be entitled to receive a copy of the material upon written request.

Any information that cannot be disclosed to the employee, his representative, or physician shall not be used to support the proposed action.

Section 7:

Except in the special circumstances referred to in Section 5 above, an employee shall be entitled to at least ten (10) workdays to answer the notice of proposed corrective or adverse action. If the proposed action is removal, the employee shall upon request, be granted an opportunity to be heard prior to a final decision. This opportunity to be heard shall be afforded by a person designated by the agency head. This person shall not be in the supervisory chain between the proposing and/or deciding official(s) and shall not be subordinate to the proposing official. This person shall review the employee's answer, discuss the proposed action with the employee and/or his representative and appropriate representatives of the Employer and make a recommendation to the deciding official who will act upon the recommendation, as he/she deems proper.

Section 8:

The person proposing a disciplinary action shall not be the deciding official unless the proposing official is the agency head or Director of Personnel.

Section 9:

Except in the special circumstances referred to in Section 5 above, an employee against whom a corrective or adverse action has been proposed shall be kept in an active duty status during the notice period.

Section 10:

The deciding official shall issue a written decision within forty-five (45) calendar days from the date of receipt of the notice of proposed action which shall withdraw the notice of proposed action or sustain the proposed action in whole or in part. The forty-five (45) day period for issuing a final decision may be extended by agreement of the employee and the deciding official. If the proposed action is sustained in whole or in part, the written decision shall identify which causes have been sustained and which have been dismissed, describe whether the proposal penalty has been sustained or reduced and inform the employee of his or her right to appeal or grieve the decision, and the right to be represented. The final decision shall also specify the effective date of this action.

Section 11:

In any circumstance in which the Employer has reasonable cause to believe that an employee's conduct is an immediate hazard to the employing agency, to the employee involved or other employees, or is detrimental to public health, safety or welfare the Employer may place an employee on administrative leave whether or not notice of proposed action has been given to the employee.

Section 12:

Notice of final decision, dated and signed by the deciding official, shall be delivered to the employee on or before the time the action is effective. If the employee is not in a duty status at that time, the notice shall be sent to the employee's last known address by certified or registered mail.

Section 13:

Except as provided in Section 14 of this Article, employees may grieve actions through the negotiated grievance procedure, or appeal to the office of Employee Appeals (OEA) in accordance with OEA regulations but not both. Once the employee has selected the review procedure, that choice shall be the exclusive method of review.

Section 14:

The removal of an employee during his or her probationary period is neither grievable nor appealable and shall be done in accordance with the DPM.

Section 15:

If a final decision is grieved through the negotiated grievance procedure a written grievance shall be filed with the deciding official within fifteen (15) workdays after the effective date of the action.

Section 16 – Troubled Employees:

In appropriate cases, consideration shall be given to correcting the problem through the D.C. Consultation and Counseling Service. When the District implements a new employee assistance program, this shall take the place of the D.C. Consultation and Counseling Service.

Section 17:

Whenever an employee is questioned by a supervisor with respect to a matter for which a disciplinary action is intended against the employee, the employee may, upon request, consult with a union official or other representative. Upon such request, the supervisor will stop the questioning until the employee can consult with such representative, but in no event will such questioning be

delayed beyond the end of the employee's following shift. When and if questioning is resumed, an employee may have a union official or other representative present.

ARTICLE 8

TRAINING AND CAREER LADDER

Section 1 – Basic Training:

Other than skills necessary to qualify for the position, the Employer agrees to provide each employee with basic training or orientation for the safe and effective performance of his/her job. Such training shall be provided at the Employer's expense and, if possible, during the employee's regular workday. If the employee is required to participate in training outside of regular work hours, the employee will be compensated in accordance with the Compensation Units 1 and 2 Agreement. Continued training shall be within budgetary constraints.

Section 2 - Continued Training Opportunities:

The Employer will encourage and assist employees in obtaining career related training and education outside the Department by collecting and posting current information available on training and educational opportunities. The Employer will inform employees of time or expense assistance the Employer may be able to provide.

Section 3 - Career Ladder:

The parties recognize and endorse the value of employee training and career ladder programs. Both parties subscribe to the principles of providing career development opportunities for employees who demonstrate potential for advancement. The feasibility of upward mobility and training programs for unit employees shall be a proper subject for labor-management meetings. Career ladder promotions when effected, shall be in accordance with DPM Chapter 8, Part II, Subpart 8, and Appendix A.

Section 4 - Experience Verification:

When an institution of higher learning provides credit for on-the-job experience, the Employer will, at the request of the employee, provide pertinent information to verify the employee's experience with the District. The employee shall provide the relevant documents and information necessary for the release of the employee's information to the relevant institution.

Section 5 - Union Sponsored Career Advancement Programs:

Management and the Union support the objective of meaningful career advancement for District Government workers in the areas of promotion, transfers and filling of vacancies. In keeping with this objective, the Union will investigate and develop programs to enhance opportunities for

career advancement such as: career counseling services; placement of career planning resource materials on site; correspondence course arrangements with area colleges, universities, vocational and technical schools; and workshops on resume writing and interview skills.

Programs that are developed will be presented and discussed during appropriate labor-management committee meetings for review and consideration.

ARTICLE 9

SAFETY AND HEALTH

Section 1 - Working Conditions:

A. The District shall provide and maintain safe and healthful working conditions for all employees as required by applicable laws. It is understood that the District may exceed standards established by regulations consistent with the objectives set by law. The Employer will make every effort to provide and maintain safe working conditions. AFSCME will cooperate in these efforts by encouraging its members to work in a safe manner and to obey established safety practices and regulations.

B. Matters involving safety and health will be governed by the D.C. Occupational Safety and Health Plan in accordance with Subchapter XXI of the Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act (1980, as amended). The District will promptly make every effort to qualify its plan under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) as established by the U.S. Department of Labor.

C. The District shall furnish and maintain each work place in accordance with standards provided within this Section.

Section 2 - Employees Working Alone:

Employees shall not be required to work alone in areas beyond the call, observation or periodic check of others where dangerous chemicals, explosives, toxic gases, radiation, laser light, high voltage or rotary machinery are to be handled, or in known dangerous situations whenever the health and safety of an employee would be endangered by working alone.

Section 3 - Corrective Actions:

A. If an employee observes a condition, which he or she, believes to be unsafe, the employee should report the condition to the immediate supervisor.

B. If the supervisor and employee agree that a condition constitutes an immediate hazard to the health and safety of the employee, the supervisor shall take immediate precautions to protect the employee.

C. If the supervisor and employee do not agree that a condition constitutes an immediate hazard to the health and safety of the employee, the matter may be immediately referred by the employee to the next level supervisor or designee. The supervisor or designee shall meet as soon as possible with the employee and his or her AFSCME representative, and shall make a determination.

D. Employees shall not be required to operate equipment that has been determined by the Employer or the appropriate D.C. Safety Officer to be unsafe to use, when by doing so they might injure themselves or others.

Section 4 - Medical Service: On-the-Job Injury:

A. The District shall make first-aid kits reasonably available for use in case of on-the-job injuries. If additional treatment appears to be necessary, the District shall arrange immediately for transportation to an appropriate medical facility.

B. The need for additional first-aid kits will be an appropriate issue for Safety Committee determination. Recommendations of the Safety Committee will be referred to the appropriate agency officials.

Section 5 - Safety Devices and Equipment:

Protective devices and protective equipment shall be provided by the District and shall be used by the employees.

Section 6 - Safety Training:

A. The District shall provide safety training to employees as necessary for performance of their job. Issues involving safety training may be presented to the Safety Committee established in Section 8(A).

B. The District shall provide CPR training to all employees who request such training.

Section 7 - Information on Toxic Substances:

Employees who have been identified by the Safety Committee and the Department or District Safety Officer as having been exposed to a toxic substance (including, but not limited to asbestos) in sufficient quantity or duration to meet District Government standards shall receive appropriate health screening. In the absence of District Government standards, the Safety Committee and Safety Officer will refer to standards established by other appropriate authorities such as Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) or the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Section 8 - Safety Committees:

A. A Safety Committee of three (3) representatives from AFSCME and three (3) representatives from the District is hereby established in each department/agency.

B. One (1) AFSCME and one (1) District representative shall each serve as co-chairpersons of the Committee. The Agency's Risk Management official shall serve on the Safety Committee as one of the Agency's representative.

C. The Safety Committee shall:

1. Meet on a monthly basis, unless mutually agreed otherwise. Prior to regularly scheduled monthly meeting, labor and management must submit their respective agendas to each other at least five (5) days in advance;

2. Conduct safety surveys, consider training needs, and make recommendations to the agency/department head and the Office of Risk Management;

3. Receive appropriate health and safety training.

D. Final reports or responses from agency/department heads (or designees) shall be provided to the Safety Committee within a reasonable period of time on safety matters initiated by the Committee.

E. In departments/agencies where there is more than one Local Union, there shall be a safety committee for each Local Union, unless otherwise agreed upon.

F. Safety Committees may be reorganized upon agreement of both parties.

Section 9 - Medical Qualification Requirements:

The District agrees to abide by the provisions of Chapter 8, Sections 848.19 and 848.20 of the D.C. Personnel Regulations as published in the D.C. Register, Volume 32, April 5, 1985 (32 DCR 1858, 1911).

Section 10 - Light Duty:

A. The District agrees to provide light duty assignments for Employees injured on the job to the extent that such light duty is available as follows:

1. To be eligible for light duty, the employee must be certified by the employee's attending physician. The certification must identify the employee's impairments and the type of light duty he or she is capable of performing.

2. The Employee will be given light duty assignments for which he or she is qualified, initially within his or her own Bureau or organizational unit. If light duty is not available within the Bureau or organizational unit, suitable work will be sought elsewhere in the department/agency.

3. Light duty assignments shall not normally extend beyond 45 working days. However, if there are no other requests for light duty, this period may be extended until such time as the request is made by another employee. Employees unable to perform their regularly assigned duties after the expiration of that time shall make application for disability compensation or exercise such other options as may be available to employees under the provisions of this Agreement or under law, and in accordance with paragraph 5 below.

4. Where there are more requests for light duty than there are light duty assignments, assignments shall be made in the order of earlier date of request.

5. When light duty is not available, an employee must return to full duty or seek compensation or retirement from appropriate channels, or other assistance as may be available in accordance with Section 9. In the event compensation or retirement is not approved, the employee may be required to take a fitness for duty examination and may be separated if (a) found unfit to perform or (b) found fit but refuses to report for full duty.

Section 11 - Excessive Temperatures in Buildings:

Employees, other than those determined by the Employer to be essential, shall be released from duty or reassigned to other duties of a similar nature at a suitably temperate site because of excessively hot or cold conditions in the building. This determination will be made by the Employer as expeditiously as possible and shall be based upon existing procedures. In lieu of dismissal, the Employer may reassign employees to other duties of similar nature at a suitably temperate site. The cost of authorized transportation will be assumed by the Employer. Administrative leave will be granted if authorized by the Mayor or his or her designee.

Section 12 - Employee Health Services:

Employees covered by this Agreement shall have access to employee health services provided by the Employer consistent with the Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act (D.C. Law 2-139). Employee health services shall include such services as provisions for emergency diagnosis and emergency treatment of illness, physical examination including, but not limited to, pre-employment, fitness for duty or disability retirement evaluation; treatment of minor illness; preventive services; health information to assist employees to protect, conserve, and improve physical and mental health; and counseling and appropriate referrals to the D.C. Consultation and Counseling Service.

Section 13 - Maintenance of Health Records:

Medical records of employees shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 31 of the D.C. Government regulations that maintain confidentiality of those records. Medical records shall not be disclosed to anyone except in compliance with applicable rules relating to disclosure of information. Copies of rules relating to medical information will be made available to AFSCME.

Section 14:

A. The Employer agrees to follow Mayor's order 87-95 regarding ergonomic policy for use of video display terminals.

B. VDT continuous users who operate a VDT for more than two continuous hours shall be allowed to move out of their chairs for brief periods to perform other tasks as specified by their supervisor.

C. If a pregnant employee, who is a continuous VDT user, submits a medical statement from her physician which recommends limiting her use of the VDT during the term of her pregnancy because of exposure to radiation, reasonable consideration will be given to providing the employee with other available duties, within the work unit, for which she is qualified and which her doctor certifies that she can perform.

Section 15:

The Employer agrees to provide the Union with a copy of all current D.C. Safety Officers, and revisions as they occur.

ARTICLE 10
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1 – Work Rules:

Employees will be advised of verbal and written work rules, which they are required to follow. The Employer agrees that proposed new written work rules and the revision of existing written work rules shall be subject to notice and consultation with the Union.

Section 2 - Distribution of Agreement:

The Employer and the Union agree to share equally in the cost of reproducing this contract for employees and supervisors. The parties shall mutually agree upon the cost and number of copies to be printed.

ARTICLE 11
BULLETIN BOARDS

The Employer agrees to furnish suitable Bulletin Boards and/or space to be placed at locations mutually acceptable to the Union and the Employer. The Union shall limit its posting of notices and bulletins to such Bulletin Boards.

ARTICLE 12
PERSONNEL FILES

Section 1 - Official Files:

The Employer shall maintain the official files of all personnel in all units covered by this Agreement in the Office of Personnel. Records of corrective actions or adverse actions shall be removed from an employee's official file in accordance with the DPM.

Section 2 - Right to Examine:

Each employee shall have the right to examine the contents of his/her personnel files upon request.

Section 3 – Right to Respond:

Each employee shall have the right to answer any material filed in his/her personnel file and his/her answer shall be attached to the material to which it relates.

Section 4 - Right to Copy:

An employee may copy any material in his/her personnel file.

Section 5 – Access by Union:

Upon presentation of written authorization by an employee, the Union representative may examine the employee's personnel file and make copies of the material.

Section 6 – Confidential Information:

The DC Office of Personnel shall keep all arrests by the Metropolitan Police, fingerprint records, and other confidential reports in a confidential file apart from the official personnel folder.

