

The sixty day time limit will not apply to obvious clerical errors. However, such errors must be protested in writing by the employee or in his/her behalf by a duly accredited representative of the Organization as defined in Rule 83.

- (d) Appeals on roster date or relative standing filed in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (c) of this Rule 16, will be held until the time limit of appeal has expired, following which all such appeals will be handled jointly by the appropriate Assistant Chief Engineer (Maintenance of Way and Structures or C&S/E.T.) and the representative and correction notice posted.
- (e) Copy of roster and correction notice will be furnished to the representatives of employees. Roster and correction notice will be signed by the appropriate Assistant Chief Engineer (Maintenance of Way and Structures or C&S/E.T.).

### **RULE 17 - ORDER OF SENIORITY - TIME OF EMPLOYMENT**

The order in which the names of employees who enter service on the same date and in the same class shall be shown on the seniority rosters on the following basis:

1. Length of previous service in the same class.
2. Length of previous service in other classes covered by these Rules.
3. Length of previous service on former railroad on positions not covered by these Rules.
4. In alphabetical order.

### **RULE 18 - REDUCTION IN FORCE-RETAINING RANK ON ROSTER**

- (a) When the force is reduced, employees affected shall have the right, within ten (10) days after the effective date of such reduction, to elect to take furlough or to exercise seniority to displace junior employees in accordance with the following provisions of this Rule.

An employee displaced in reduction of force who elects to exercise seniority may exercise seniority onto any position for which he is qualified by bid or displacement without loss of seniority. The requirement to exercise in class is deleted.

- (b) The Carrier may force assign the junior qualified employee in a working zone as defined in Rule 14 who is working in a lower class on the same shift to a vacancy in the same working zone which has gone no bid. A qualified employee is considered an employee who is qualified on the position to be filled and who has established seniority in the class of that position. Force assignment shall be made in writing to the affected employee and a copy of such written notice shall be promptly furnished the General Chairman. An employee who refuses to fill such assignment will forfeit seniority in the class of the position refused and all higher classes on the same seniority roster.
  - (1) The Carrier will not force assign an employee to a position in a work zone if another employee in the work zone possesses the necessary qualifications for the position although not having established seniority and has made application for such position.