

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Action Date:

For Information Only

DEPARTMENTAL PERSONNEL MANUAL

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DPM BULLETIN NO. 550-31

DATE: AUG 13 1993

**SUBJECT:** Exception to the Biweekly Earnings  
Limitation for Employees Performing  
Work in Connection with Flooding of the  
Mississippi River and its Tributaries

Under section 550.106(a) of Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, the Secretary or his designee may authorize an exception to the GS-15, step 10, biweekly earnings limitation for work performed in connection with an emergency situation. Employees excepted from the biweekly limitation are still subject to an annual limitation equal to the rate of pay for a GS-15, step 10.

The Assistant Secretary for Administration has determined that the severe flooding of the Mississippi River and its tributaries has created an emergency situation for which an exception to the biweekly earnings limitation is appropriate. Operating administrations (OA's) are therefore authorized, beginning the first day of the first pay period in which the emergency began, to apply the annual GS-15, step 10 limitation to the payment of premium pay for employees performing work directly related to the flooding or its aftermath, through October 5, 1993. Those OA's administrations which require additional time must submit requests for extensions to the Assistant Secretary for Administration through the Departmental Director of Personnel.

On July 28, 1993, President Clinton signed a memorandum for heads of executive departments and agencies (copy attached) requesting that employees who are faced with a personal emergency because of the damage caused by the flooding and who can be spared from their usual responsibilities be excused from duty without charge to

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**Filing Instructions:** File after FPM Chapter 550 Bulletins

**Bulletin Expires:** Upon Notification

**Distribution:** Personnel Council, APN-100, AMZ-500, AAC-25,  
AAA-100, M-80

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leave or loss of pay. This request also applies to employees who are needed for emergency law enforcement, relief, or clean-up efforts authorized by Federal, State, or local officials having jurisdiction. It does not apply to Federal employee members of the National Guard or Reserves who are called up to assist. Military leave is appropriate for those employees.

If you have any questions, please call Jan Karicher of my staff on 366-9450.



Director of Personnel

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 28, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS  
AND AGENCIES

**SUBJECT:                   Excused Absence for Employees Affected by the Flooding of  
                              the Mississippi River and Its Tributaries**

I am saddened by the devastating losses caused by the flooding of the Mississippi River and its tributaries and the impact on the well-being and livelihood of our fellow Americans. Many parts of the Federal Government have been mobilized to respond to this disaster and to begin a massive effort to recover from the ravages of this flooding.

As part of this effort, I request heads of executive departments and agencies who have Federal civilian employees in the areas designated as disaster areas because of the flooding to use their discretion to excuse from duty, without charge to leave or loss of pay, any such employee who is faced with a personal emergency because of the flooding and who can be spared from his or her usual responsibilities. This policy should also be applied to any employee who is needed for emergency law enforcement, relief, or clean-up efforts authorized by Federal, State or local officials having jurisdiction.

