

IMPERIAL COUNTY GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. Definition of Grievance:

A grievance is defined as a dispute over the application of the specific terms or provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding by an employee adversely affected thereby, but shall not include the following:

- (a) Disciplinary actions which shall be subject to appeal through County Ordinance provisions for the appeal of disciplinary actions.
- (b) The exercise of any County Managements rights as specified in Article 5 of this Memorandum.
- (c) An impasse or dispute in the meeting and conferring process.

2. Rights

There shall be no restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination or reprisal against any employee for exercising any rights under the grievance procedure. The grievant, upon his or her request, is entitled to representation by Teamsters Local Union 542 at each step of the grievance procedure.

Grievance Procedures:

Grievances must be initiated within ten (10) working days after the occurrence of the event which caused the grievance.

- (a) Step 1 – An employee who has a grievance shall informally discuss his/her complaint with his/her immediate supervisor. Every reasonable effort shall be made to resolve the grievance at this level. The immediate supervisor shall respond to the grievant within ten (10) working days following the date of the informal discussion between the grievant and the supervisor.
- (b) Step 2 – If the employee feels his/her grievance has not been satisfactorily resolved, or if he/she receives no response from his/her immediate supervisor he/she shall have ten (10) working days from the date of the grievance in writing to the next higher authority. The grievant shall provide a copy of the grievance to the bargaining unit steward. The higher authority shall within ten (10) working days of the receipt of the written grievance, supply an answer in writing to the aggrieved employee, explaining clearly his/her decision or proposed action.
- (c) Step 3 – If the aggrieved employee is not satisfied with the written answer received at Step 2, he/she may, within ten (10) working days of receipt of such written answer, appeal in writing to the department head. The department head shall confer with the employee and prior levels of supervision involved in an attempt to affect a harmonious solution. The department head shall reply in writing within ten (10) working days following receipt of the written grievance unless, by mutual agreement, the time limitation is extended.
- (d) Step 4 – If the aggrieved employee is not satisfied with the written answer received at Step 3, he/she may, within ten (10) working days of receipt of such written answer, appeal in writing to the Director of Human Resources and Risk Management. The appeal must include this grievance, any attachments and the response at each level. The Director of Human Resources and Risk Management or designee shall review the grievance and reply in writing within ten (10) working days following receipt of the grievance documents unless, by mutual agreement, the time limitation is extended.
- (e) Step 5 – If the aggrieved employee is not satisfied with the response he/she may submit a written request for review by the Employment Appeals Board to the Director of Human Resources and Risk Management within ten (10) working days of receipt of the written response.

3. Special Provisions:

The multi-level steps of the grievance procedure are designed to permit sufficient steps within larger departments having more than one supervisory level. In the case of departments with only one supervisory level between the grievant and the department head, Step 2 is waived. In departments that have more than three (3) levels of supervision, the department head is the immediate supervisor, Steps 1 and 2 are eliminated. A grievance originating in a department that does not have supervisory levels between the employees and the department head shall be responding to in writing by the department head.

4. Waiver of Grievance

Failure of the aggrieved employee to file within the specified time limit for any step of the grievance procedure shall constitute an abandonment of the grievance. Failure of any designated level of management to respond within the specified time limits shall cause the grievance to move to the next step, if so desired by the employee, effective as of the date by which the manager is required to respond.

See County Ordinance, Chapter 3.64

IMPERIAL COUNTY EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE REPORT

This section to be completed by Grievant

Name _____ Date _____ Classification _____

Description of Grievance

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

Action Requested

Step 1 – I verbally discussed my grievance with my immediate Supervisor on:

Signature of Grievant: _____ Date: _____

Step 2 – Decision of Second Immediate Supervisor (To be completed by Second immediate Supervisor)

Name _____ Date Grievance Received _____ Title _____

Signature _____ Date returned _____ Decision _____

Date Received by Grievant _____ Signature _____

Grievant’s response to Step 2 _____

Step 3 – This section to be completed by Department Head

Decision of Department Head

Signature of Department Head _____ Title _____ Date _____

Received by Grievant on Date _____ Signature of Grievant _____

Grievant’s response on Step 3

Step 4 – This section to be completed by Director of Human Resources and Risk Management:

Decision of Director of Human Resources and Risk Management _____

Signature _____ Date Sent to Grievant _____