# New Article 25 District Level Hearing NEW ARTICLE

#### Article 25 Severability District Level Due Process Hearing

25.1 **Purpose.** Consistent with the purpose that "actions taken to discipline or discharge an employee shall be based upon just cause" and "the principal of progressive discipline" as referenced in Section 4 *Rights and Obligations of Employees*, subsection 4.6 *Employee Discipline*, this process for a District Level Due Process Hearing provides a means by which employees subject to discipline or discharge are given timely, fair, due consideration at the site level with an opportunity for resolution within a framework of graduated accountability. Prompt resolution leads to a better labor management relationship, and retention of employees.

### 25.2 **Definitions.**

- 25.2.1 Alleged Complaint. See Section 24.2.1.
- 25.2.2. **Days**. See Section 24.2.2.
- 25.2.3. Supervisor. See Section 24.2.3.
- 25.2.4. Exclusive Representative. See Section 24.2.4.
- 25.3 Progressive Discipline. See Section 24.3.
- 25.4 **Complaints.** See Section 24.4.
- 25.5 Employer Rights and Obligations. See Section 24.5.

## 25.6 **Notice**.

- 24.6.1. **Delivery**. The written notice will be provided in person with a written acknowledgement signed by the employee, or sent by email to the employee's work address or where needed their personal email address with an acknowledgment by the employee.
- 25.6.2. **Timing**. The written notice must be provided at least 3 (three) duty days before any District Level Meeting.
- 25.6.3 **Content** *See Section 24.6.3.*
- 25.7 **Confidentiality.** *See Section 24.7.*
- 25.8. Right Of Employee To Exclusive Representative. See Section 24.8.
- 25.9. **Tennessen Rights**. *See Section 25.9*.

### 25.10 Investigatory Meeting.

- 25.10.1. Site Level Meeting. If the disciplinary outcome is imposed at the Site Level Meeting process and then proceeds to the District Level Hearing, the employee must file an appeal after a decision is made within X (X) duty days to Employee Relations. The investigatory meeting must be held within X (X) duty days of the employee providing this notice.
- 25.10.2. **District Level Hearing**. If the disciplinary action initiates with the District Level Hearing, then the investigatory meeting must occur X (X) days after notice has been provided by the employer. By mutual agreement this meeting may occur prior to or after the notice of X (X) duty days, but in no case longer than X (X) duty days after notice is provided.
- 25.11 **Decision**. The decision imposing progressive discipline will be made only after at least X (X) duty days after the District Level Hearing to ensure all information is duly considered. Upon mutual agreement, the decision may be imposed at the District Level hearing.
  - <u>25.11.1 Factors</u> to be taken into consideration include but are not limited to those found in the "Additional Information" Section, page XX.
  - <u>25.11.2 Written Decision</u>. The decision will be provided in a written document delivered to the employee.
- 25.12. **Processing During Normal Workday**: Processing of all Due Process Hearings shall be during the normal workday whenever possible, and employees shall not lose wages due to their necessary participation.
- 25.13. **Appeals**. Disciplinary Outcomes decisions per subsection 24.3 *Progressive* Discipline may be appealed within X duty days by filing a grievance.
  - 24.13.1. **Content**: The employee must provide the reasons for appeal.
  - 24.13.2. **Grievance Steps**. With the alleged complaint having been discussed at a Site Level Meeting and / or at a District Level Hearing, and a decision made to impose disciplinary action, the matter will proceed to the Grievance Procedure process (Article 26).