2-22-24

Official Publication of TWU Local 234

www.twulocal234.net

Bringing Consova Back for No Good Reason

SEPTA is bringing Consova back to do another audit less than a year after the completion of the first one. This is a waste of taxpayer money, and everybody's time and energy, and its being done to hide managerial **incompetence** in SEPTA's Benefits Department.

Think about this. If an employee enrolled a new spouse or dependent in SEPTA's health plans between the months of April 2023 and February 2024, they're going to be audited by Consova. However, if an employee enrolled a new spouse or dependent in SEPTA's health plans during that time, the only way a spouse or dependent could be covered is if the Benefits Department verified their eligibility. **So why repeat what should already have been done**?

The only explanation is that the Benefit's Department is not doing its job or is incompetent or both. One solution to this problem is to fire the head of the department, along with every other manager responsible, and let Consova verify the eligibility of new enrollees.

While a previously verified spouse is subject to the audit, previously verified dependents are not.

Since a second audit at this point makes absolutely no sense, the Union will file a grievance to limit these audits. In the meantime, since you don't want to find yourself fighting the loss of benefits, the best course of action is to go along with the program.

You can re-verify a previously audited spouse by submitting a Federal 1040 Form. All financial info can be redacted from the form.

If you don't file a joint Federal 1040 form, here's what you need to supply.

Option 1:

Affidavit of Marital Relationship (which SEPTA should provide) AND Joint taxes from the previous tax season AND Copy of a joint IRS Extension

Option 2:

Affidavit of Marital Relationship AND

Joint financial statement (i.e. joint bank account or joint mortgage statement) dated within 60 days prior to the verification date.

Option 3:

Affidavit of Marital Relationship AND Individual financial statements within 60 days prior to start of verification indicating the same residence.