



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE TRIALS AND HEARINGS

MEMORANDUM

TO: HOPS-UFT Labor Management Committee

FROM: Denis T. Brogan, Assistant General Counsel

SUBJECT: Notes on 9/27/16 Meeting

DATE: 10/24/16

On September 27, 2016, the second meeting of the Hearing Officers (Per Session) (“HOPS”) – United Federation of Teachers (“UFT”) Labor Management Committee was held at 100 Church Street, 12th floor. Joan Silverman, Laura Fieber and Jack Miller were present on behalf of UFT. Denis Brogan, Amy Slifka and Susan Kassapian were present on behalf of OATH.

Having called the meeting, UFT presented three (3) items on the agenda: (1) Scheduling, (2) Security and (3) Consolidation.

1. Scheduling

UFT asked about the mechanics of scheduling in multiple places using multiple systems. Amy explained that the system has only been in effect for two months so far so we need time to see how it works out. Laura proposed that every HOPS be assigned to a borough and that an e-mail be sent out to solicit HOPS for extra dates at other locations. Susan emphasized that OATH needs HOPS in the Bronx after Jack asked why he was reassigned to the Bronx. Everyone agreed to give the scheduling another 1-2 months to work out.

Susan predicted that most of the DCA cases will continue to be heard in Manhattan for the rest of the year and will start being made returnable to the outer boroughs in early 2017. The first DCA cases going to the outer boroughs will be returnable in the Bronx and may occur before the end of the year.

Although a reasonable accommodation for child care for hearing officers is not available due to the position being “per session,” Amy recommended that any hearing officer caring for a child should speak to their managing attorney.

2. Security

Laura said that female HOPS feel uncomfortable walking to the Bronx tribunal so none of them want to go there. Amy encouraged HOPS to speak to their managing attorneys if they want to switch their assigned borough.

3. Consolidation

UFT requested more training on NYCServ, ATAS, service of process and any “refresher” courses that OATH can offer, now that the tribunals have consolidated and HOPS will handle new cases.

The labor allocation for the duals is no longer required.