



The Four Winds

National Weather Service Employees Organization

NWSEO Member Katherine (Sanders) Schoeneberg Needs Medical Leave Donation

You Can Help with the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

(August 8, 2018) Katherine (Sanders) Schoeneberg, an Administrative Assistant at the Mobile, AL Weather Forecast Office and long-time NWSEO Member, both since 2010, is in need of medical leave donations as she has exhausted all of her sick leave and annual leave due to complications of scoliosis surgery. Prior to join NWS, she worked for the Navy Public Works Center in San Diego, CA and for Command Training Wing in Pensacola, FL.

Previously, Ms. Schoeneberg had scoliosis surgery correcting a 65 degree curve in her spine. Since then, she has developed serious degeneration of her neck and lower back. Because of the severity of the first scoliosis surgery, she has been unable to find a doctor willing to correct her neck and lower back, so for the last 20+ years she has lived in constant pain. Ms. Schoeneberg has found a neurosurgeon who was willing and completed surgery for her neck and possibly will correct her lower back later in the year. She has been accepted and enrolled into the NOAA Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (VLTP).

NWSEO Members have always been generous with annual leave donations for co-workers in need. If you are interested in donating leave for Katherine (Sanders) Schoeneberg, you may complete the 630A Form at this link: http://www.opm.gov/Forms/pdf_fill/opm630a.pdf.

Please make sure the form is signed by you and Katherine Schoeneberg is named as the recipient when you submit it to your ASA.

Here are a few facts about donated medical leave and the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program that you might find beneficial if you are considering donating leave or if you are in need of donated leave time:

OPM regulates that only annual leave may be donated. You cannot donate sick leave. Leave donors can specify a member of the Leave Donor Program whom they'd like to receive their donated leave time by completing form complete form [OPM-630A](#) .

Any leave that is not used is returned back to the donor.

A person does not have to wait until their leave is exhausted before applying to be a recipient of the Leave Transfer Program. They must present medical documentation showing they anticipate that they will be on unpaid status for at least 24 hours.

Before a person can accept any donated leave, they must complete the required paperwork, have it processed, and receive notification that they are accepted as a recipient of the Leave Transfer Program. It can take two weeks to process the paperwork, so applicants should apply as soon as they realize the condition is expected to exhaust their leave.

Department of Commerce leave rules come straight from OPM. There are no agency specific rules.

If you would like to learn more about the Leave Transfer Program, including a full list of participants, visit: http://www.wfm.noaa.gov/payroll/leavedonor_info.html.

If you know of an NWSEO member in need of a medical leave donation and would like us to inform members on the NWSEO.org website, please have them contact NWSEO at mediarelations@nwseo.org.

NWSEO thanks you for your generosity and care!

For additional information, please visit:

http://hr.commerce.gov/Practitioners/CompensationAndLeave/DEV01_006149

-NWSEO-

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National Weather Service employees.**

**No one works harder for National Weather Service employees than
National Weather Service employees.**

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