DECISION



THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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FILE:

B-171969.42

DATE:

JAN 9 1976

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MATTER OF:

Carl P. Mayer - Mileage costs from residence to official station on non-regular work days

DIGEST:

There is no authority to reimburse and employee mileage for traveling by a privately owned automobile between his residence and official duty station on non-regular work days to perform voluntary overtime even though transportation is irregularly scheduled between the employee's residence and duty station on non-work days.

This action is in response to a request for an advance decision from an authorized certifying officer of the San Francisco Regional Office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development as to the propriety of paying the claim of Mr. Carl P. Mayer for mileage costs from his residence to his official duty station and back for voluntary overtime on non-regular work days. The certifying officer states that public transportation is irregularly scheduled from Contra Costa County to San Francisco on Saturdays and Sundays, and it is, therefore, necessary for employees in outlying areas to use privately owned vehicles to perform weekend duties for the Government. He further states that the duties performed by Mr. Mayer have been determined to be advantageous to the Government.

Decisions of this Office have consistently held that no authority exists for reimbursement of an employee for the expense in traveling from his residence to his place of official business. This is an expense that must be borne by the employee. 11 Comp. Gen. 417 (1932); 15 Comp. Gen. 342 (1935); 36 Comp. Gen. 450 (1956); B-165203, September 30, 1968; B-171991, April 14, 1971; and B-175853, April 21, 1972. This is true even if regular work is scheduled at irregular hours. B-182936, February 19, 1975.

There are limited exceptions to the above-stated rule.

Paragraph 1-2.3e of the Federal Travel Regulations (FPMR 101-7, May 1973) permits reimbursement under certain circumstances of taxi fares between the employee's residence and duty station when such travel is incident to officially ordered work outside of regular working hours. However, voluntary overtime on non-regular

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work days is not an exception to the general rule prohibiting reimbursement of travel expenses to an employee for travel between his residence and official duty station.

Accordingly, the voucher may not be certified for payment.

R. P. RELLER

Comptroller General of the United States