

Chair Taylor Members of the Committee,

Most of my overtime is volunteer so I can stay at the bottom of the bucket list, but I still get mandated. It's not fair. Being on mandatory overtime in a facility that is short-staffed is overwhelming.

You pretty much have no life because of mandatory overtime. During the working weekdays you are unaware of when you are going to be mandated, so you can only do the bare minimum after work just in case you get mandated the next day. You don't see your kids. You leave your house before they get out of bed, and by the time you come home after a double, they're already back in bed.

Even when you try to schedule time off, you can be mandated. You learn to not trust management. There was a time that I had worked over 168 hours of overtime in addition to my scheduled 168 hours of regular time in one month, just so that I could remain at the bottom of the bucket list to avoid being mandated on the one day that month I had an event scheduled with my son. I had communicated with the Lieutenant for days. The day of the event the OIC called to mandate me, so I refused. I then was called to the office by a Captain who was going to serve me with a letter of expectation for refusing to work a mandate. My Union defended me in this circumstance, so I didn't receive a letter in my file, but this conversation should never have happened in the first place.

I shouldn't be working twice as many hours per month just to avoid being forced to work mandatory overtime so that I can make time for my family.

Blanca Jimenez

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