

Working All Weekend To Provide for Paychecks

On Friday, January 25, the end of a 35-day partial shutdown of the Federal government was announced. At 3:30 p.m. that afternoon, staff from the Office of Shared Services' Human Resources Operations Division (HROD) and the Office of Management's Human Capital Division (HCD) met with our payroll provider, the National Finance Center (NFC), to discuss the process for getting employees impacted by the shutdown paid as expeditiously as possible.

During the call, it was announced that there would be a 3:00 p.m. deadline on Monday, January 28, to provide NFC the timecards needed to pay the excepted and non-excepted (furloughed) employees for pay period 26 and pay period 1. HROD and HCD management quickly put a pre-established plan into action.

Taking a meal break were Abby Williamson, Jessica Wilson, and Zack Yearwood.





DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF THE FISCAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20227

It gives me tremendous pleasure to begin this week with ALL members of the Fiscal Service team back at work. It has been a challenging month, but as always you rose to the occasion.

While many of you continued your normal work schedule, you also pitched in to help where needed or dealt with the shutdown-related issues. Others of you continued to work without pay to carry out our critical mission—and for that I am deeply grateful. Others of you were furloughed—and we felt the void that your absence created.

I want to express to you my sincere appreciation for the work you do on behalf of the American people every day. **The work you do matters.** As part of the critical financial infrastructure of the federal government, the Fiscal Service has an immediate impact on the lives of all Americans. Whether it is disbursing payments, financing the government and accounting for the resulting debt, collecting funds, reporting on the financial status of the government, or providing the support functions that keep us operational, the public service you perform is vitally important.

On a personal note, I found it heart-warming to see the care, concern, and camaraderie among our Fiscal Service team. I heard countless stories of staff reaching out and supporting co-workers over the past month. I consider myself fortunate to work with a group of people dedicated to both their colleagues and our mission.

Commissioner Kim McCoy sent this message to employees when the government reopened on January 28.

The mission would be to process all pay period 26 and pay period 1 timecards by Sunday, transmitting them in the proper sequence to ensure the proper payment of federal employees that had not received pay since the ending days of December 2018.

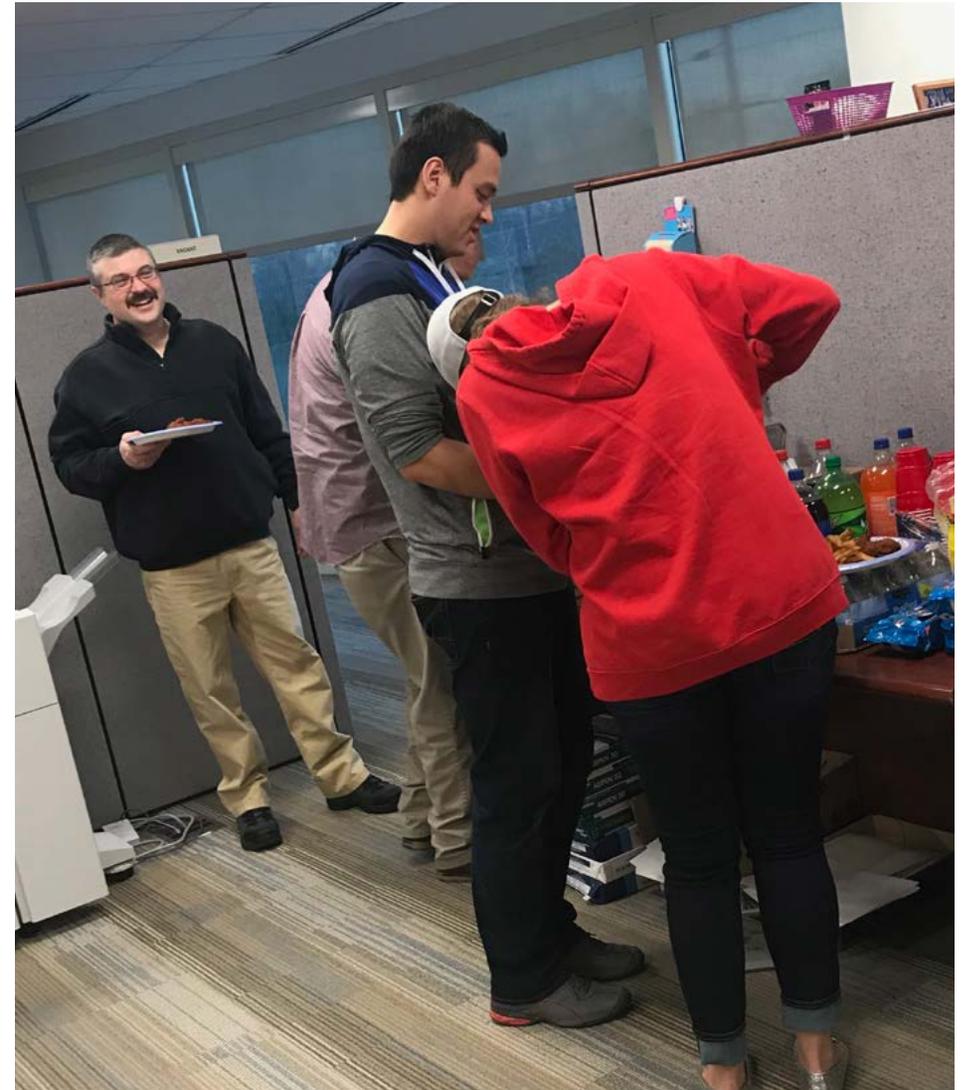
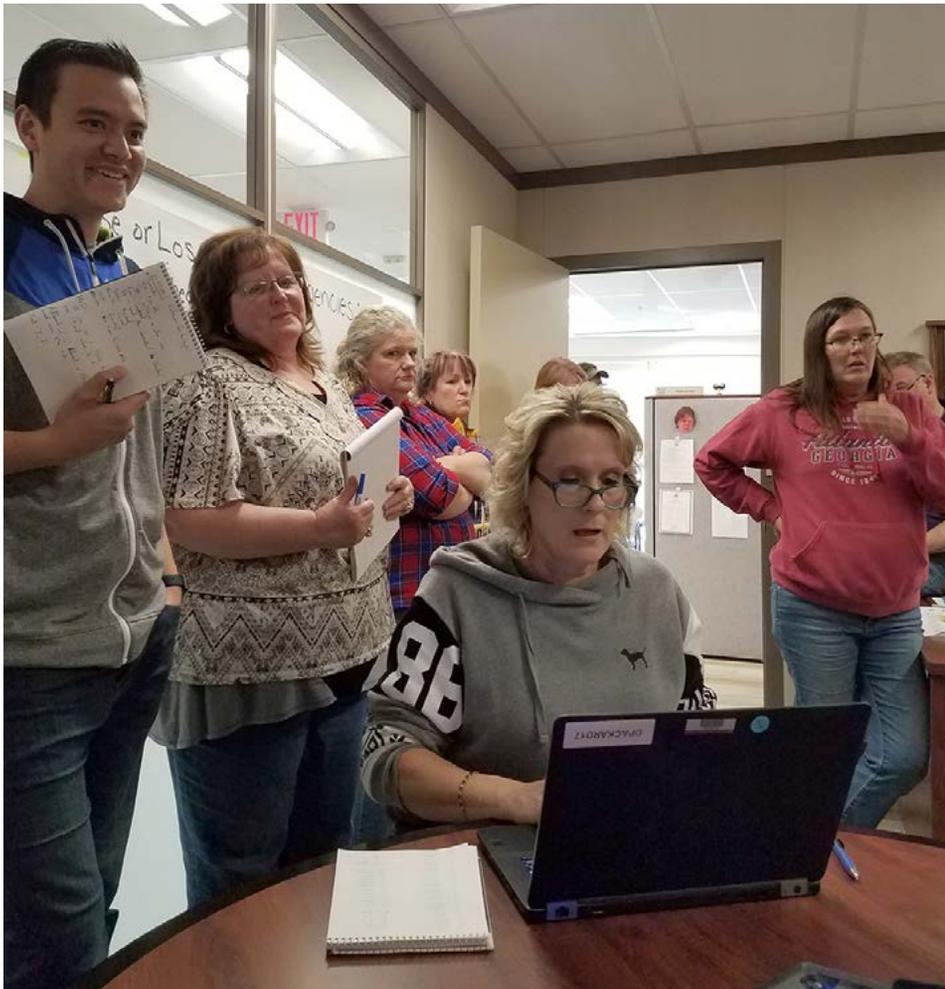
Starting immediately, this team got to work and stayed late Friday to complete agency reports needed prior to processing employee timecards. With several employees working well into the night and early morning, preparations for the upcoming weekend were completed.

Early Saturday morning, over 50 members of this team, along with assistance from Fiscal Accounting (FA) webTA support staff, worked together to input, validate, certify, and transmit timecards. This work continued throughout the day, with some employees working as late as midnight to transmit a total of 1,513 timecards.

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On Sunday, the work continued, with even more staff assisting the effort to get the remainder of the timecards validated, certified, and transmitted. The goal was accomplished with the final transmission of timecards being sent by 10:00 p.m. Timecards for 11,453 federal employees were transmitted for

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Above: Enjoying a break are (left to right) Mike Cundiff, Zach Yearwood, and Janna King.

Left: Participating in a team meeting were Zack Yearwood, Lana Van Camp, Melissa (Missy) Deem, Kathy Lanham, Dani Packard, Jo Ellen Canada, Vickie Curry, and Scott Simonton.





pay period 26 and pay period 1.

More than 60 HROD, HCD, and FA employees made it possible for these employees to receive their pay as quickly as possible. Also, Information and Security Services (ISS) staff ensured that the webTA application stayed up and running.

This was all done using a much more arduous approach than usual whereby our customer employees and management did not input, validate, or certify their timecards—the team took care of the timecards from start to finish to ensure that they complied with the guidance provided, that they were submitted to NFC as quickly as possible, and that our customer employees and management could focus on other matters awaiting after their long absence.

With a combined total of over 1,000 hours worked, 22,906 timecards were transmitted in less than three days with an unselfish attitude of service—a monumental accomplishment and one that was no doubt much appreciated by those employees who had gone without those two paychecks due to the shutdown. This achievement is another illustration of how Fiscal Service employees embody the spirit of “lead, transform, and deliver” to the American people. **BUZZ**

