
**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE (NWS)
(the Agency)
AND THE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE EMPLOYEES ORGANIZATION (NWSEO)
(the Union)
CONCERNING
GROUND RULES FOR BARGAINING OVER A TERM COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

17. External Communication:
- a. What happens in negotiations will be kept confidential.
 - b. Neither party will initiate contact with media to discuss negotiations. If the media contacts either party, that party will notify the other of the contact.
 - c. The parties understand that each has the responsibility to respond to requests from Congress for testimony and information. If either party determines it necessary to seek to present information on the negotiations to Congress that party will first notify the other party of their intent to contact Congress.
 - d. Both parties will safeguard information provided during negotiations. If a party believes it necessary to release information deemed confidential by the other party they will notify the party before releasing it.
 - e. Each party has the right to communicate with its respective constituency and seek information from its constituency to assist in bargaining.

Dated: _____
