

BMW NEWS RELEASE

Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes
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President of Rail Labor Union Retires

Southfield, MI—Mac A. Fleming, International President of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes (BMW) retired effective April 14, 2004, following an extended medical leave. Fleming, who served more than 30 years as an officer of the BMW, determined it best for health reasons to retire after extensive consultation with doctors and family.

“Mac Fleming will be missed for the time and effort he put forth in our organization’s battles to improve our members’ lives,” stated BMW Acting President Freddie N. Simpson who has been at the helm during Fleming’s medical leave, “we all wish Mac and his wife Phyllis the very best in the years to come and a long and happy retirement.”

Mac A. Fleming, born September 22, 1945, in Walnut Grove, Mississippi, first joined the BMW in 1968 following his employment that same year with the AT&SF Railroad. In 1969 he was elected to his first union position as Local Chairman of BMW Local 2414 in Colorado and was promoted to a Foreman’s position on the AT&SF in 1970. After serving for 13 years as a System Federation Officer in the union, including 6 years as General Chairman of the AT&SF System Federation, Fleming was elected as International Secretary-Treasurer of the BMW in 1986 followed by 4 consecutive elections as the rail unions International President beginning in 1990 until his retirement.

Throughout his union career, Fleming also served in numerous other elected or appointed labor union positions including Chairman, Legislative Committee (Railway Labor Executives’ Association), Advisory Board Member (American Income Life Insurance Company), Chairman (Cooperating Railway Labor Organizations), Vice President (High Speed Ground Transportation Association), Board Member (Santa Fe Hospital Association), Vice President, Executive Committee (Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO), and Executive Council Member/Vice President (American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations, AFL-CIO). Fleming holds an Associate of Arts degree from Jones County Junior College (Laurel, Mississippi, 1967) and is a 1979 graduate of Harvard University’s Labor Studies Program. Mac and wife Phyllis will continue their residence in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

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