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Metro's Arthur Winston Signs Final Retirement Papers



It's official! Pension & Benefits Technician Yvette Nixon gets signature for retirement papers. At right, Arthur Winston Division Service Attendant Leader Michael Ashford verifies as witness.



Photos: Gayle Anderson

 Metro's Most Senior Employee retires in March, the day before his 100th birthday

By BILL HEARD, Editor

(Jan. 31, 2006) With the stroke of a pen, Tuesday morning, Metro's venerable Arthur Winston – on the cusp of his 100th birthday – signed his final retirement papers.

Winston's last official day on the job at his namesake Division 5 will be March 21, the day before he will reach the century mark and become one of the nation's oldest, but newest retirees.

The signing, with a special pen given him by his manager, wasn't the first time Winston has retired.

His first retirement, in June 1971, represented 37 years, four months of service. Winston will leave the agency in March following another 34 year, 9-month period for a total service of 72 years, one month.

How did he feel as he sat in Benefits Technician Yvette Nixon's office, the retirement papers in front of him? "I feel fine, hungry!"

Retirement for a man spry enough to lead his team of service attendants through a hard day's work doesn't mean he'll sit on the porch and watch the world go by.

'Want to keep busy'

"I haven't planned too much, but I want to keep busy, keep active," he vows. "I don't want to go home and sit down."

Instead, he'll keep his lawn looking neat and tend his flower garden – which just now has dahlias to care for. "My lawn and garden are going to look pretty good."

And Winston will still get around quite a bit, visiting relatives in Los Angeles and a few in his native Oklahoma.

Lately, he's been making the rounds of various Metro operating divisions and offices to say goodbye and a few inspirational words to his admirers.

When Winston visited with Customer Relations employees in November, Director Gail Harvey had the event videotaped. "When we need a little motivation," she said, "we can pop the video in."

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