

7 HOURS 40 MINUTES

Monday October 10, 2011

I am sure this weekend has been a time for you and your family to think, pray, and discuss your future plans. This is definitely what I was doing for I too must reapply for my position. Many of you have shed tears, felt lost, and do not know what you want to do. If I remember right there is 740 of us facing the same decisions.

I decided to run a long ways to reflect on my past, present, and future. My prayers kept bringing me back to how thankful I am for 34 years with American Family. My Company has allowed me to make friendships, take care of my personal family with income, and experience amazing joy. I have always been amazed with the dedication, skills, and character of the employees in all of our offices. When thinking about many of you leaving American Family has made me very sad.

My prayers lead me to turn my sadness into action. My thoughts were, I want the opportunity to work 7 hours and 40 minutes for the Company and the employees that I love. The 7 hours and 40 minutes thought stuck in my head. I decided to run 7 hours and 40 minutes this weekend for the 740 employees facing a major life decision. So Saturday I ran 4 hours and 40 minutes and Sunday 3 hours to total 7 hours and 40 minutes. This amount of time allowed me to run 40 miles. I am sorry I just could not do 740 miles.

It is time for every employee to extend support, encourage, assistance, and love for our fellow employees. Let's not let our fears overcome us. American Family has always been a large family for me. What do family members do when times get rough? They unite and run to their family members' side. I decided it is time for me to run to anyone's side that needs help. I am asking that all of you do this as well. I encourage everyone that needs help to ask your fellow employees.

For me I am going to focus on staying with the Company I love. It would give me great pleasure if all of you will join me. If your decision is to seek other opportunities then I wish you well. Our Company had to make tough decisions. Let's not focus on the negative but look forward to a positive future. Thank you for being part of our Family.

Dennis W. Atkins
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