



NALC REGION 5



March 2015

National Business Agent's Report

NALC Region 5

President Rolando recently announced the appointments of two new Regional Administrative Assistants for Region 5 effective on February 2, 2015.

Charles Sexton, Recording Secretary for Branch 343 in St. Louis, MO. Charlie is a Leadership Academy class #2 graduate and has served the NALC as a Local Business Agent, JARAP District Lead, Arbitration Advocate and was the lead person for all of the recent Region 5 Local Memorandum of Understanding impasses cases.

Stephanie Stewart, President of Branch 352 in Des Moines, IA. Stephanie is a Leadership Academy class #9 graduate and has served the NALC as a Local Business Agent, Arbitration Advocate, VP of the Iowa State Association, CDRAAP District Lead and is one of the NALC's experts on COR.

The membership of Region 5 is very lucky to have two new outstanding RAA's who will work tirelessly on behalf of the letter carriers in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. I look forward to working with them in the future.

I'd like to thank Mark Sims for all he did as an RAA over the past four years. Mark has taken a position and will be working with NALC Vice President Lew Drass at Headquarters in Washington, DC. Mark's contributions, dedication to the membership of Region 5, and his friendship cannot be quantified by mere words. Good luck and thanks from the members of Region 5 and me personally.

CCA's – Recently we sent out a CCA Separation Tracking worksheet to each branch. Please complete a worksheet for each CCA that is separated or resigns. This is especially important for any CCA that is injured on the job and let go during their probationary period. If you have a CCA that is injured and let go, or a newly converted career carrier let go during their probationary period, you should contact this office immediately for further instructions and information as some of their rights are time critical.

LLV's/Vans – Many carriers over this past month have had their LLV's swapped out for new RAM Cargo Vans (left hand drive). The postal service apparently has bought thousands of these vehicles and has disbursed many of them across our Region. Apparently the first order of business was to get them out to the field and the safety of letter carriers once again took a back seat as well as the functional ability of the Vans on certain routes. We received a few calls



NALC REGION 5



March 2015

National Business Agent's Report

NALC Region 5

where these new vehicles were given to carriers with dismount deliveries and to carriers with curbside delivery. Where we have been contacted, we've been able to correct the problems. So, if you have been the recipient of one of these new Cargo Vans and have either a number of dismount, curbside deliveries or if you are on a park and loop route and you must dismount your vehicle into heavy traffic, please call this office. Safety is our first concern.

Food Drive – Due to the loss of a major corporate sponsor for the 2015 Letter Carrier Stamp Out Hunger food drive, we have been working with the United Way Worldwide and Feeding America to notify their affiliates and enlist help to fund postcards. Despite this last minute setback, we are confident that we can again have a successful food drive and set another record this year. We cannot do this alone, never have. Each and every one of us needs to step up and do a little more this year. Reach for the next rung on the ladder.

The USPS reported 1.1 Billion in operating profits for the 1st Quarter of 2015 with a 18% increase in parcels.

Michael J. Birkett
National Business Agent
NALC Region 5 (St. Louis)