



NALC REGION 5



June 2015

National Business Agent's Report

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Time Clock Manipulation – Another supervisor has been caught committing fraud by manipulating time clock rings to make his numbers better. This is called FRAUD! If you have any questions about time clock rings or if you are cheated of pay, you should immediately contact your local steward, branch president or this office so that investigations can begin and grievances filed. Management has no problem issuing discipline to carriers for the smallest of infractions and it's time they hold themselves to at least the same standards. This is stealing, no question about it. Managers who are caught stealing either time or money from their employees should be removed from supervision at the minimum and from the postal service in most instances. Thumbs down!

State Conventions – As I write this article Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa have had their state conventions and Missouri will be in session shortly. Let me thank the outgoing officers for their diligence and efforts in representing letter carriers in the legislative arena and wish the incoming officers all the best. Legislatively we are in a battle for our very lively hoods and future. Failure is not an option! Special shout-outs to retired NBA and ISALC Director of Retiree's Joe Miller on receiving his "Gold Card" for 50years of membership in the NALC and to retired NBA Danny Pittman on his election to the ISALC Hall of Fame. It was great to see so many old friends and meet the next generation of NALC leaders.

National Rap Session – The session will be held July 17-19 in Houston, with registration taking place on Friday, July 17, followed by a full day of workshops Saturday, July 18, and the conference session itself on Sunday, July 19. Hilton Americas-Houston is located in the heart of downtown Houston and is across the street from Discovery Green Park, next to Toyota Center and two blocks from Minute Maid Park. Many popular attractions are accessible via light-rail. A limited number of rooms have been set aside for delegates at a group rate of \$169 single/double (plus 17 percent tax). A charge of \$20 will be added for each guest over double occupancy, with a maximum of four guests per room. To make reservations, call the hotel's reservation department at 800-236-2905. To receive the group rate, callers must identify they are with the NALC using group code **1LC**. To make reservations on line, go to the link at the NALC website.

USPS Vehicles – Sixty Seven percent of the USPS fleet of vehicles are LLV's. The latest OIG Audit reports that management has failed in its obligation to timely complete required vehicle maintenance. The report shows that 21% of the fleet is not receiving its "preventative



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maintenance” in a timely manner. This is obviously no shock to letter carriers who drive these vehicles daily. If your vehicle is unsafe or needs repair, use Form 4565 and write it up. The first person responsible for your safety is you. Thumbs down!

Food Drive – The 23rd Annual NALC “Stamp Out Hunger” Food Drive is in the books. This year’s food drive was a great success considering that just shortly before printing postcards, a national sponsor dropped out leaving everyone scrambling for local sponsors and finances to fund the cards. Despite the setback, letter carriers once again stepped up and made it happen. Hopefully by my July article, I will have some totals from within the Region. Participating branches and members should be very proud of being part of the largest one day food drive in the country and giving back to their communities.

Heat Exhaustion – I’m sure that everyone is shocked to hear that it’s already started. The first stand-up talks are being held concerning heat exhaustion. You’re told that you need to drink a lot of water and to take extra breaks if necessary. This is usually followed by someone telling you that you have “under-time” and need to carry an extra 45 minutes. History has shown us that some managers may be concerned about safety, but not your safety. Know the signs, drink the water, find the shade, take the breaks and go home to your family after work.

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