



Region 5 NBA Report



August 2017

National Business Agent's Report

NALC Region

Article 12 Withholding – This office has received numerous Withholding Notices from the USPS over the past month. Those offices, offices within 50 miles and the number of employees affected are: Davenport, IA – 1 Clerk; Des Moines, IA NDC – 10 Clerks, Des Moines, IA – 6 Mail Handlers; Des Moines, IA P&DC – 36 Clerks; Emporia, KS – 1 Clerk; Hutchinson, KS – 1 Clerk; Independence, KS – 1 Clerk; Iowa City, IA – 2 Clerks; Kansas City, KS – 1 Clerk; Lincoln, NE – 1 Clerk; Moline, IL – 1 Clerk; Mt. Pleasant, IA – 2 Clerks; Norfolk, NE – 1 Clerk; North Platte, NE – 5 Clerks; Omaha, NE – 2 Clerks; Shawnee, KS – 5 Clerks; Sioux City, IA – 4 Clerks; Springfield, MO – 7 Clerks; St. Joseph, MO – 1 Clerk; Topeka, KS – 5 Clerks; Waukon, IA – 1 City Carrier; Wichita, KS – 1 Clerk. Branch presidents have been contacted and requests for information submitted to the Service. I'm hopeful that most of these Withholdings will be cancelled. In fact, the one for Council Bluffs, IA already has. Grievances will be filed if the Service fails to meet their contractual responsibilities. This office has already requested information from Western Area and local entities as well. We will do everything we can to limit any negative effects on the letter carrier craft and CCA's.

Amazon – Customer, not a friend. While Amazon is taking over the world, one piece of the economy at a time, it's vital that we recognize that although Amazon has certainly been a boon to the finances of the USPS, they are using us to their benefit, not for some altruistic cause. They ship through us because we're cheaper and have the best last mile delivery network, period. If and when they can find an alternative method, they will be gone. Already they have their own drivers (like Uber), who are delivering parcels in some of the larger markets around the country. Amazon is one of the largest investors in drones and even designed "hives" from which their drones can leave from and return to. They are also anti-union. The following was taken from <http://leftlaborreporter.com>:

"In November 2000, 50 workers at an Amazon call center in Seattle began efforts to organize a union. In January 2001, Amazon announced that it was closing its Seattle call center. The company closely monitors its employees every move. In Amazon's cavernous warehouses, workers are constantly pressured to keep on the move in order to meet production goals. In 2011 when conditions at an Amazon warehouse near Allentown, Pennsylvania got oppressive because of the summer heat, the company showed little interest the workers' safety. When temperatures inside the warehouse reached more than 100 degrees, workers requested that the warehouse's doors be left open to help cool them off. Amazon managers refused. Workers started coming down with heat related illnesses. A local doctor who treated some of the workers at an emergency room contacted the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration to report an "unsafe environment" at the warehouse. Instead of taking steps to make the warehouse safer, Amazon stationed ambulances and paramedics in the parking lot to treat people overcome by the heat."

Amazon is trying to surpass Walmart as the nation's number one retailer...at any cost.



Region 5 NBA Report



August 2017

National Business Agent's Report

NALC Region

WIMP – Where Is My Package – We all know the importance of delivering parcels accurately and on time. Customers are tracking our scans and cameras are everywhere. WIMP is a new voluntary service project which was started to address the high rate of customer complaints concerning package delivery. The project began in Baltimore, Maryland and has crept out from there. Local NALC branch presidents will be asked if they want to participate in the project (voluntary) and if so, the program will be explained and training given. A part of the project acknowledges that no discipline will be administered for miss deliveries, which the NALC, thru this office, will monitor to insure the agreement is kept.

Grocery Deliveries – I've reported in the past that the USPS was testing grocery deliveries in a few areas around the country. The latest news is that letter carriers are making 35,000 grocery deliveries per day. Coming soon to your area?

Food Drive – Final totals are in for Region 5. We collected a total of 3,159,155 lbs. and over \$75,000. Kansas: 534,991 -8%; Nebraska: 586,590 +17%; Missouri: 1,360,600 -15%; Iowa: 676,974 +33%

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

By making a contribution to the Letter Carrier Political Fund, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it part of union dues. You have a right to refuse to contribute without any reprisal. The Letter Carrier Political Fund will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled. Contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund are not deductible for federal income tax purposes. Federal law prohibits the Letter Carrier Political Fund from soliciting contributions from individuals who are not NALC members, executive and administrative staff or their families. Any contribution received from such an individual will be refunded to that contributor. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 per calendar year. Any guideline amount is merely a suggestion, and an individual is free to contribute more or less than the guideline suggests and the Union will not favor or disadvantage anyone by reason of the amount of their contribution or their decision not to contribute.