



May 2018

Business Agent's Report

NALC Region 5

**MDD load Truck Feature** – We have received many calls on this issue and the answer is not just a short yes or no. The scanner feature did not replace the handbooks and manuals. According to M-41 section 322, carriers must load the parcels into delivery order. The language requires you to make a mental note of the first parcels delivery point, then once it's delivered, to make a mental note of the next parcels delivery and so on, until all parcels have been delivered. You may be required to use the feature but still must comply with the handbook provisions. You can't do this if the "zones" are not also organized for delivery. So, if USPS refuses to allow you to place parcels in delivery order as well as scanning them into zones, a grievance should be filed.

**Safety Ambassador Program** – On March 8, 2018, President Rolando appealed to National Arbitration the USPS decision to unilaterally implement their Safety Ambassador Program. The NALC is urging all members not to volunteer as safety ambassadors for this program as it currently stands. Just say no if asked. I urge you all to read Vice President Drass' s article in the April 2018 Postal Record.

**NRP McConnell vs USPS** – Recently, current and former postal employees who were subjected to the National Reassessment Process, from May 5, 2006 to July 1, 2011, began receiving notices from the Postal Service pursuant to an order by the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. On 3/26/2018 the EEOC entered a final decision on McConnell vs USPS NRP, EEO Class of approximately 130,000 USPS employees. There are no more appeals. The original appellant automatically gets paid damages. The other 130,000 potential class members must file a claim to be considered for potential damages. Two letters are being received by injured workers subjected to NRP. One from the Postal Service and the other from Thomas & Solomon LLP. Claims can be filed in writing, or by use of the notice from the Postal Service or Thomas & Solomon. Those who were evaluated under NRP during the above time frame may put in a claim for damages, to the extent they can provide a specific and detailed showing that they suffered compensable harm. This claim must be returned to the Postal Service within 30 days of receipt. The NALC makes no recommendation as to hiring any attorney group to represent you and please understand that if you choose to be represented by Thomas & Solomon they are entitled to 30% of any award you may be entitled to. The NALC is recommending the claim be filed by April 12, 2018. **YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 30 DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THE ABOVE NOTICE BY THE POST OFFICE.** More information can be found on the NALC website. [www.nalc.org](http://www.nalc.org)

**Amazon, Parcels & the USPS** – Just to set the record straight and for letter carriers who may be questioned by your customers: Amazon and the USPS have a contract where Amazon does receive a discount; The workshare discount is predicated on Amazon using their own network to pre-sort and move packages for the Service to pick up and drop them off for the "last mile delivery." The Postal Regulatory Commission, and independent agency, oversees the Postal Service's pricing structure and reviews the contracts with Amazon annually to ensure it is profitable. In 2017, the Service (letter carriers) delivered 589 million more packages (11.4 % increase over 2016) resulting in an additional 2.1 billion in revenue.



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**FYI: 2019 & 2020 Rap Sessions** – As per our discussion at the Region 5 Rap Session in February...The 2019 Region 5 Rap Session will be held Saturday & Sunday, February 23 – 24, 2019 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Overland Park, KS. The 2020 Region 5 Rap Session will be at the same location on Saturday & Sunday, February 22 – 23, 2020. Announcements will be made again this fall with contact information for the Hotel.

**Future Delivery** – A recent article in GeoMarketing estimates that 40% of all packages will be delivered within two hours by 2028 and that adjusting to a same-day delivery standard will be paramount over the next decade. While I'm always skeptical of future prophecies, I don't think we can be oblivious of the changes that are happening around us. Consumers want instant gratification and will use the provider who best meets their needs. If we want to stay the dominant last mile delivery force in the world, the Service and Letter Carriers will have to adapt. Let's hope the Service is smart enough to include the people who do the work in the decisions on how the work will be done.

**Drone News** – A Russian made drone, making its first delivery in Siberia, crashed into a wall and crumbled to pieces. Some things just make me smile.

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.*