



August 2018

Business Agent's Report

NALC Region

White House Plans for Privatization of the Postal Service – On June 21, 2018, before the “Presidential Task Force” has even completed putting their recommendations on paper, the Trump administration has called for the privatization of the U.S. Postal Service. The administration went on to say that major savings would stem from not just reducing services and more pricing flexibility, but by freeing the agency to “more fully negotiate pay and benefits.” For many years National, Regional, State and Local NALC Leadership have warned members about those who want to privatize the Service for their own profit. It’s no longer back room talk...it’s out in the open. Be prepared to write, call, text or email your congress person or senator in the near future. Don’t forget to sign up for the Letter Carrier Political Fund. Ten years from now, working for half the pay and little or no benefits, don’t look back and say I wish I would have contributed...I wish I would have done something.

Injured on Duty – The unfortunate has happened: you have been injured on the job. What is the first thing you need to do? After you pick yourself up, brush yourself off and hope that the mail didn’t scatter, you report your injury! At the first sign that you are injured, report it. A CA-1 traumatic injury claim needs to be filed. Remember to mark the box for COP. Until you have been seen by your doctor you have no idea how long you will be out. A CA-16, which is an authorization to be treated in an emergency situation, should accompany your visit as well as a CA-17 for your doctor to determine what, if any, restrictions will be necessary. You have the right to see the doctor of your choosing. Once you have been seen and are recovering you may start to get letters from OWCP. Anything you receive from OWCP should be kept in a folder with anything you turn into the Postal Service; all CA-17’s and CA-7’s and any documentation from your doctor or Injury Comp. Remember: Injury Comp is a department within the Postal Service; they do not determine if your claim is approved or disapproved. Their goal is to get you back to back to work, not to help get your claim approved. You may receive a development letter which is not a denial, however if you fail to respond to the development letter, your claim will be denied. Sometimes it is just a simple fix, but guarantee it will be a lot more complicated if you do not respond at all. If your claim is denied there are always options to appeal your claim and get it approved. Call this office with any questions.

Tests, Tests and more Tests – The NALC is continuously notified by the Postal Service of some new test they are going to try. Most are comical, some are absurd. I can only surmise there is some small wing in L’Enfant Plaza where gaggles of empty headed mad doctors are employed. Some of the latest proposals are:



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- Dual Casing – One case and two routes, this includes rotating case labels (This test is already ongoing in St. Louis and is spreading to numerous other offices around the country). First carrier starts early, cases and pulls down his route. Second carrier starts later.
- Honking – One district has mandated that carriers honk their horns every 50 yards along their route. Customers who work nights are not appreciative so far.
- Parcel Routes – This is just like it sounds...the service is going back to the past.
- Caser/Streeter – Yep, back to this fiasco again. One carrier cases 3 or 4 routes per day for carriers who will clock in and go directly to the street and then spend a couple of hours on the street. This didn't work several years ago, but...try, try, again.
- Caseless Routes – No casing equipment at all. Carriers will put the mail in order in their vehicle or at a table.
- Mobile Cases – Put wheels on the cases and load them directly into the vehicle. No dock? Install a lift platform.
- MSP Scans – The service is actually thinking about ending the MSP scans. Geez, since they're following every move by GPS now, are they finally understanding what a waste of time it is?
- Self-Managed Units – Here is an idea we could probably all get behind. Imagine carriers coming to work and just doing their jobs without constant harassment.

Region 5 Food Drive Results – Final results are in and Region 5 had another outstanding year. Each and every one of you who participated should be proud to have given back to your local community. Missouri – 1,479,872; Kansas – 517,616; Iowa – 631,453; Nebraska – 386,242; Total for Region 5 is **3,015,183 lbs.**

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