



January 2019

Business Agent's Report

NALC

**Newsclips** – Every day I receive articles that have been printed around the country in newspapers, magazines or published online concerning letter carriers, the postal service and labor. Too frequently headlines like the following are showing up: Cleveland postal employee going to prison for stealing gift cards; Georgia Postal Service Workers Sentenced for Accepting Bribes to Deliver Cocaine through the Mail (15 Letter Carriers); Ann Arbor mail carrier accused of taking part in drug trafficking scheme. The easiest way to lose your job in the service is to commit a crime. Throwing away mail, stealing from the mail or using the mail illegally. Besides the loss of your job, you may also be prosecuted in Federal Court. These carriers make everyone look guilty and erodes the public trust.

**Phishing** – NALC has received reports of members receiving an email message that appears to come from an NALC email account and includes an NALC logo in its message. The email appears to be endorsing a GoFundMe.com campaign for a sick child and includes a link that takes recipients to PayPal.com and asks them to log in to their account. NALC does not use email to endorse personal campaigns or solicit funds for such campaigns. Further, banks and other financial institutions will not ask for personal information via email or suspend your account if you do not update your personal details within a certain period of time. Most banks and financial institutions usually provide an account number or other personal details within the email, which ensures it's coming from a reliable source.

**Disaster Relief Foundation** – The NALC has established a Disaster Relief Foundation to alleviate the suffering of members who are affected by natural disasters. The foundation has been set up to provide hands-on relief and to receive donations which can be offered as grants to those affected. Volunteers were activated this fall and went to North Carolina to help carriers recover from Hurricane Florence. Another twenty-eight carriers have been identified who lost their homes in the California wildfires. Donations to the foundation can be made by sending a check to: NALC Disaster Relief Foundation, 100 Indiana Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144. Carriers and retirees who are interested in volunteering should send a note about his or her interest to the same address or by sending an email to: [DisasterReliefFoundation@nalc.org](mailto:DisasterReliefFoundation@nalc.org) More information including an application to apply for a relief grant can be found at: <https://www.nalc.org/community-service/nalc-disaster-relief-foundation>



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**White House Task Force Report** – The recently released report attacks the collective bargaining rights of postal employees, calling for the revocation of the right to negotiate wages by the postal unions. Some of you may remember the late 60's and early 70's, I do. A starting letter carrier was paid \$6176 annually and rose to a whopping \$8442 after 21 years of service. I was in high school in the 70's and took a job bagging groceries at a local supermarket...earning more per hour than a full-time letter carrier. Collective bargaining has allowed letter carriers to join the middle class, to buy homes, send our children to college and live the American Dream. The report allows for massive service cuts allowing the USPS to reduce the frequency and quality of delivery, resulting in massive job losses for letter carriers. At the same time, the report allows the service to dramatically raise parcel rates which has been the highly profitable and fastest growing volume. The report proposes that the USPS sell access to mailboxes. While raising revenue this proposal would be devastating to the future of the Service. Amazon & UPS have already come out in support and I'm sure every other company that delivers will be on board as well. Remember, this report comes just months before the NALC begins negotiating our next National Agreement. We cannot go back to the "Collective Begging" of the past.

**Branch News** – Branches are reminded to submit news items, stories and photos to "social@nalc.org"

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