

DON'T LET THEM TAKE YOUR Postal Pulse

USPS Tries to Undermine Bargaining

Don't Let Them Take Your Pulse

On Feb. 19, postal management announced a new employee opinion survey, the Postal Pulse.

What's wrong with that?

The Postal Service has a history of using employees' answers against the union in negotiations, going as far back as the 1990s. Since then, the union's National Executive Board and delegates to APWU national conventions have adopted resolutions opposing employee opinion polls and urging union members to boycott them.

"The APWU vehemently opposes Postal Pulse, and any other employee opinion survey – despite management claims to the contrary," said President Mark Dimondstein. USPS notices distributed at various sites say the APWU supports the program.

The timing of management's notice to employees was especially sinister, he said, because it coincided with the opening of bargaining.

Industrial Relations Director Tony D. McKinnon Sr. broached the issue at negotiations, telling management representatives that the survey "would have a chilling effect on negotiations" and urging them to withdraw it.

"Don't let management take your pulse!" Dimondstein declared. "We are more powerful when we raise our voices together, through our union, than when we speak individually in a survey the bosses can manipulate," he said. "If management asks you to complete a survey, I urge you to decline." Vice President Debby Szeredy said, "Remember, management cannot force you to complete the survey."

The union filed an Unfair Labor Practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) on Feb. 25. Employees who feel they are being pressured to take the survey should contact their local union representative.

In the meantime, let's keep up the fight for Good Service! Good Jobs! Good Contract! **APWU**

