

The Twig of the Branch



Branch 1477 West Coast Florida Letter Carriers



Serving:

**St. Petersburg — Largo — Dunedin — Pinellas Park — Indian Rocks Beach
Punta Gorda — Englewood — Bradenton Beach — Palmetto — Ellenton**

VOLUME 652

VOICE OF BRANCH 1477

AUGUST, 2024

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By President Joe Henschen

Twitter @ JaHe1

On May 31, 2024, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Re: Extension of the Technology Integrated Alternate Route Evaluation and Adjustment Process 2022-2023 (TIAREAP) expired. In a Region 9 Presidents meeting National Business Agent Eddie Davidson advised "the parties walked away from the TIAREAP with no exit strategy"

What once was a pretty successful process for Region 9. The TIAREAP Teams evaluated and adjusted 201 Zones, adding 108 Routes, 105 new Auxiliary Routes, converting 52 Auxiliary Routes to Fulltime Routes, while only reducing 22 Routes to Auxiliary Routes and losing 32 Full Routes, and 11 Auxiliary Routes over the life of this agreement.

ROUTE PROTECTION PLAN

With the expiration of this agreement, we will see the return of traditional route count and inspections (RCI). The rules governing the evaluation and adjustment of city delivery routes are found in Chapter 2 of Handbook M-39, Management of Delivery Services and Chapter 9 of Handbook M-41, City Delivery Carriers Duties and Responsibilities.

The provisions contained in these USPS handbooks are enforceable through the grievance procedure via Article 19 of the National Agreement. In addition to these provisions, a number of national-level settlements and MOUs also are applicable and enforceable.

Keep in mind, Chapter 2 of the M-39 prohibits management from using mail volume or route data from the months of June, July, August and December in the formal route evaluation and adjustment process. Currently the Branch is tasked with processing violations of the provisions of the Handbooks when they have begun a Route Count and Inspection in Englewood Florida on only 2 routes and an Auxiliary assignment in July.

NEXT BRANCH MEETING AT THE HALL AND VIA ZOOM: THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024

It is important that you understand that a unilateral route count and inspection is nothing more than a math problem. Everything a Carrier completes in the office is assigned a Line-Item number. During a count and inspection identifying every task completed in the office is important to protect the office time assigned to the route.

The following is a brief description of each of the line items used to record time during the week of route count and inspection on PS Form 1838-C. Most Carriers today have not gone through an RCI. The 1838-C is a form that is used to identify the time it takes to do the tasks ancillary to casing and pulling down mail.

During the week of inspection, Carriers will be credited with the actual time it takes to perform the tasks as explained below.

Fixed Office Time Adjustments

There are base minimum time allowances that must be credited for lines 14, 15, 19, and 21; Line 14 - 6 minutes, Line 15 - 5 minutes, Line 19 - 3 minutes, and Line 21 - 9 minutes. **If a Carrier averages above the minimum time for a function during week of inspection, the carrier will receive the average of the actual time used for that function.** If the carrier averaged below the base minimum for any function, the base minimum time will be used for that function. Management may attempt to adjust the actual fixed office time entries for the route being inspected. These adjustments must be supported by comments on Form 1838 or Form 1840. General comments such as "excessive time," "too much time," "...adequate or sufficient for this function," "...used on the day of inspection," "too slow pace," are alone not sufficient for supporting an adjustment to the actual time used. **However, under no circumstances may the time credit for any line item(s) (14, 15, 19, and 21) fall below the base minimum times as referenced above.**

Lines 14-23 on PS Form 1838-C

Line 14 – Accountable Mail – 6 minutes minimum time allowance – Time spent when you stop casing mail to get your accountable mail, signing for it, filling out the name or address on PS Form 3849, and casing the notice as a reminder in the morning plus the time it takes to get cleared and go on to your next task in the afternoon/evening.

Line 15 – Withdrawal of Mail – 5 minutes minimum time allowance – This includes time spent withdrawing mail from tubs or trays, cutting straps, removing plastic, etc. **This line item also includes time you spend withdrawing mail from both the**

throwback and hot cases. The M-39 states that, "two withdrawals of letter mail and one of papers for each trip, with a final pull just prior to leaving time, generally are sufficient."

Line 16 – Sequencing and Collating Mail – Time spent collating or sequencing mail is recorded on this line. For example, time spent collating circulars to get down to three bundles in an FSS environment is recorded on line 16.

Line 17 – Strapping Out Time – Most letter carriers will not use this line item. Line 17 is only used in very limited circumstances. The only timeline 17 is used is when you have motorized curb delivery routes where the majority of the case separations contain more than two addresses per separation. In these instances, the Letter Carrier records the actual time to place the mail in the exact sequence of delivery instead of 1 minute for each 70 pieces.

Line 18 – Break - 10 minutes minimum time allowance – In most offices, a 10-minute credit is given where letter carriers take a morning office break.

Line 19 – Vehicle Inspection – 3 minutes minimum time allowance – Time spent inspecting your vehicle every morning is recorded on this line. Time starts when you get your key to go to your vehicle and ends when you come back into the office and begin your next task.

Line 20 – Personal Time – 5 minutes minimum time allowance – This time credit covers any personal needs that you may have while in the office such as obtaining raingear from your locker, restroom needs, etc. **This time is not entered on Form 1838-C.** Five minutes for line 20 is automatically calculated in the fixed office time. If your office has additional wash-up time such time is entered on line 21 not line 20.

Line 21 – Recurring Office Work Not Covered by Other Line Items – 9 minutes minimum time allowance – This covers a wide variety of office functions that you perform on a recurring, continuing basis. Generally speaking, recurring office time is an office task that occurs at least once per week. Many of these functions are universal and take place on almost all, if not all, routes.

Some examples in the morning are:

- getting your scanner and setting it up,
- trip(s) to the throwback case,
- getting your parcel hamper,
- checking for sleepers,

- AMS/edit book/red book work,
- replenishing forms,
- verifying hold mail,
- weekly safety talks,
- removing tags,
- returning empty equipment to a designated area, etc.

Some examples in the afternoon/evening are:

- taking care of outgoing mail collected on your route,
- placing your attempted parcels and 3M mail in the designated location,
- returning your parcel hamper to the designated location,
- processing undeliverable mail,
- trip(s) to the throwback case,
- returning empty equipment to a designated area, etc.

Line 22 – Non-recurring Office Work – Line 22 is for non-recurring, noncontinuing office functions. Because Line 22 items are not regular office activities, **you will not receive credit in the route evaluation for the time spent performing them.** Activities that are not part of the normal routine do not become part of the route. Remember, no work performed on a recurring, continuing basis should be recorded on line 22. Generally speaking, recurring office time is an office task that occurs at least once per week as explained above in the description of line 21.

Line 23 – Counting Mail and Filling out PS Form 1838-C – Only the time spent counting the mail and filling out Form 1838-C during the week of count and inspection is recorded on line 23.

In a nutshell: Lines 14-19 and 21 are good, Lines 22 and 23 will not impact the adjustment of your route that time is deleted. RCI's are back

Observance of the line items is important. Completing these tasks the same way every day is as essential as completing street duties consistently. Accurate operation and route changes in your scanner are important. If this is all new to you, it's time to get in a routine. We have all known, the first day of a route inspection is the first day on your route.



Hubble's Troubles

By Executive Vice President,
Chris Hubble

Unilateral Route Count and Inspections (RCI)....

As Joe mentioned in his article, the USPS has bailed on what was a successful mutually agreed process to adjust routes for the NALC.

So now, the USPS has notified the Branch that they will be conducting unilateral route counts and inspections on routes that have requested special route counts (271g).

While not a contract violation in and of itself, the USPS is counting and inspecting additional routes. That is in violation of Handbooks and Manuals.

When selecting periods for and RCI, management will make a least annual route and unit reviews and correct any unsatisfactory conditions such as, but not limited to:

- Adequacy of Carrier case equipment and condition of Carrier case labels.***
- Amount of missent/misthrow mail distributed to carriers.***
- Handling of accountable and signature mail by carriers at central markup offices.***
- Review of Carrier Route Book to determine if:***
 - (a) PS Form 1564A — all items completed.***
 - (b) PS Forms 1564-B and PS Form 3982 — posted on a current basis.***
 - (c) Edit Book and/or PS Form 1621 — completed to show current number of deliveries.***

Review DPS Handling Procedures.

The results of the review will be shared with the local NALC President, or designee, and the regular Letter Carrier(s) serving the route(s) that require adjustment. *In some units it may be necessary to proceed with mail counts and route inspections on one or more routes. These inspections will be conducted between the first week of September and May 31, excluding December.* [Emphasis added]

As noted above, management **may** proceed with inspecting one or more routes but **only** between the first week of September and May 31, excluding December.

The USPS has notified the Branch that these inspections will take place in July. A clear violation of the Handbook M-39. Also, a review of the count procedures **will** be made within 21 days prior to the start of the count and route inspection to teach the Carrier how to accurately complete count forms (PS Forms 1838-C and 1838-A) during the period of count and inspection.

In addition, within 4 weeks prior to the week of the count and inspection, the local union representative will make a random drawing of numbered lots from 1-4 to be used in determining the 7 random weeks to be selected for all routes at the delivery unit. [Emphasis added]

I'm confident there will be more violations as these counts proceed but be rest assured, there will be grievances filed. The travesty of it all is that it all could all be avoided. Prior to the TIAREAP memo, the Branch has always worked with the district manager in conducting a locally mutually agreed to process. A mutually agreed process avoids grievances and the anxiety of both the examiner and the carrier during a six (6) day *RCI*.

Speaking of the examiner, the route examiner must, but not limited to:

Not set the pace for the Carrier but should maintain a position to observe all delivery points and conditions.

Not suggest or forbid any rest or comfort stops but should make proper notations of them.

Not discuss with the Carrier on the day of inspection the mail volume or the evaluation of the route. These matters must be discussed with the carrier at a later date when all data has been reviewed and analyzed.

I'll briefly discuss some areas you should be made aware of regarding the mail count.

Handbook M-39 explains:

221.13 General Rules for Making Count

221.131 When management performs the mail count ***the Carrier serving the route, upon request, may verify the mail count.***

221.133 There should be no changes in normal distribution procedures or clerical schedules during the period of mail counts.

221.136 All mail distributed to the Carriers up to the normal established cutoff time will be delivered.

In addition, the street inspection process is the PS Form 3999, Inspection of a Letter Carrier Report.

As mentioned earlier, the examiner is not to set the pace of the Carrier. Unlike casing mail, in which there is a standard of 18 letters a minute and/or 8 flats a minute as well as 1 minute for every 70 pieces you pull down. There are no standard street times. I'll repeat that one more time... ***there are no standard street times!***

Also, the examiner is not to suggest or forbid any rest or comfort stops but should make proper notations of them. This includes reasonable wash up time when requested by the carrier prior to mealtime. In addition, don't forget the Heat Illness Prevention Program (***HIPP***). Management has unilaterally chosen July and August to conduct these *RCI*'s.

The ***HIPP*** is triggered when any employee in any facility is exposed, or reasonably anticipated to be exposed, to heat index temperature exceeding 80 degrees Fahrenheit for extended periods of time, six hours or more, over the course of a workday or work shift. Do not be pressured and/or intimidated in sacrificing your safety. Stay hydrated throughout the day. If you feel that the heat is getting to you, seek shade to stay cool until you feel you can resume your duties.

We will argue that this time is not deducted from the street inspection as it is of a recurring nature in June, July, and August.

If you have any questions and/or concerns about the above, ask your steward and/or reach out to the hall.





Retiree Update

By Director of Retiree Affairs,
O.D. Elliott

PSHB (Postal Service Health Benefits)

Much has been written about the PHSB which will go into effect January 1, 2025. I have received several questions about enrolling in Medicare Part B. The PHSB program requires certain annuitants to enroll in Medicare Part B to continue your Health Benefit Coverage in retirement. If you are an annuitant **as of January 1, 2025, and did not enroll in Medicare Part B, you ARE NOT** required to enroll in Part B to continue your health insurance coverage in the new Program. Your participation in Part B is voluntary.

If you are an annuitant as of January 1, 2025, and are already enrolled in Medicare Part B, you are required to remain enrolled in Part B to continue your Health Insurance coverage.

If you are an annuitant entitled to Medicare Part B (age 65 or older) as of January 1, 2024, and did not enroll in Part B, you and your covered family members may participate in the special enrollment period from April 1, 2024 through September 20, 2024. This special enrollment period allows you to enroll in Part B and not have to pay the 10% extra assessed for each year you are over 65. This 10% is added each year and is permanent. If you are one of those retirees who at age 65 did not enroll in Medicare Part B, do yourself a favor and enroll during this Special Enrollment Period.

I have been asked more than once, what benefit is there to having Medicare Part B if you already have Health Insurance. The answer is simple. Once you become eligible for Part B (age 65), your Health Insurance will generally limit their coverage to what Medicare would pay. Since Medicare pays for only 80% of your medical costs, without Part B, your insurance plan would generally pay only 80%, leaving you with the other 20%. With Medicare Part B, Medicare would pay 80% and your insurance the remaining 20%.

If you are and annuitant , aged 65 or older and have not enrolled in Medicare Part B, you should have received a notice from the Postal Service noting the Special Enrollment period. If you did not receive this notice, you should contact Social Security Administration (SSA).

You can be a part of your Union Meetings by logging into Branch1477nalc.org to find the link and passcode.

The Next General Membership Meeting is August 15, 2024, at 7PM.



Last Punch Presentation



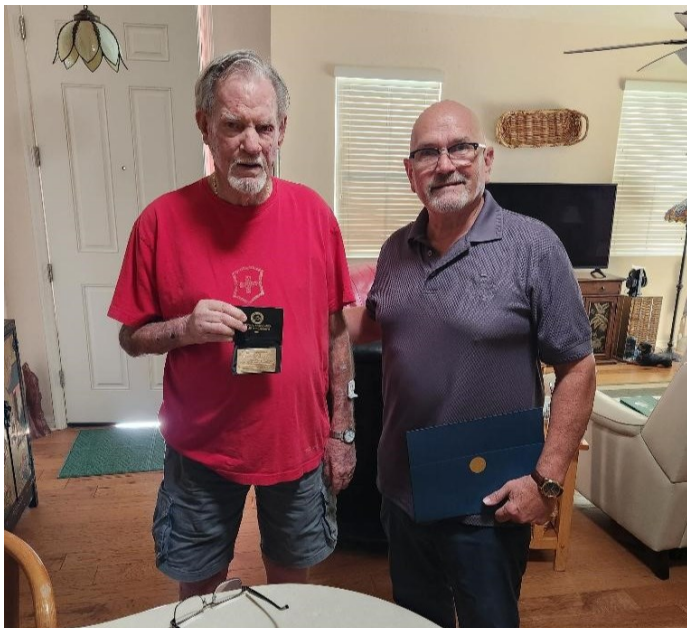
**Congratulations
Gulfwinds Carrier,
Robert Thompson, (Dr. Bob)
35 year NALC Member**

**Retiree Presentations
Plaque, Gold Card and Pins**



**Roy Vanderveer, 50 year Gold Card
Pinellas Park**

**Dave Meier, 70 year Plaque
Pinellas Park**



**Terry Johnson, 50 year Gold Card
St. Petersburg**

**Robert Gibson, Gold Card and 55 year Pin
Punta Gorda**

Minutes of July 11, 2024 Membership Meeting



**Recording/Financial
Secretary**
Ken Grasso

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Joe Henschen.

Invocation by O. D. Elliott.

Pledge of Allegiance: led by President Joe Henschen.

Minutes of previous meeting: Motion to accept June's minutes by Eric Short, seconded by Shiela Bradley. Motion passes.

Branch by the Numbers: As of the PP 14 dues roster, 798 Active 801 Members paying dues. Retirees 562 (130 Gold Cards) – 1363 Total Members.

Recognize from Absolute Quality Interpreting Services Katie Dynan.

Scholarships Drawing: Ken Grasso

- Elliott Scholarship Male Winner: Christian Junevicus
- Alternate: Chase Knight
- Elliott Scholarship Female Winner: Alexis Smolka
- Alternate: Armanee Gary
- Baxley Scholarship Winner- Chase Knight
- Alternate: Armanee Gary

Treasurer: Chuck Cavicchio read ending balances for June. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Terry Johnson, seconded by Scott Archbold. Motion passes.

Director of Retiree Affairs: O.D. Elliott—We had 5 retirees this month, Robby Tyler—Largo, Bob Thompson—Gulfwinds, Joe Clarke—Crossroads, Al Williams—St. Pete Main, Karl Fillhart—Gulfwinds.

He also talked briefly about those who are eligible to enroll in Medicare Part B regarding the new

Health Plan starting in 2025.

Director of Insurance: Tom Phillips—Talked about getting physicals this year, recommended everyone should get one a year. If you haven't used your TASC card, you should for over-the-counter medical expenses.

Executive Vice President: Chris Hubble—

Office Grievance Summary: 40 Grievances Filed, 34 were contract cases, 6 were discipline. Those not resolved at Formal A were 6 contract and 2 discipline. We appealed 6 cases to Step B. We had 64 files worked on since last month. We had 6 resolutions back from Step B and 2 were remanded back for more information.

Welfare Reports:

Sad:

Heather Vincent-Gates, Steward Crossroads—Father passed away.

Ken Domingos, Crossroads—Wife had surgery.

Glad:

Tom Phillips, Director of Insurance—Daughter had a reveal of her twins. She is having a boy and a girl.

Promotions:

St. Petersburg:

- Zack Schaffer
- Kolette Gibbs
- Durrel Evans
- John Stubbins
- Juan Colon-Ortiz
- Cory Joseph
- Dan Burden

Largo:

Shawn Ricketts

Presidents Report:

We have also been notified of additional promotions coming in St. Petersburg: On 8/1/24—(1), on 9/7/24—(7), on 9/21/24—(1), on 10/5/24—(2), on 10/19/24—(1).

In the Lite Blue HERO platform there is a link to a conversion training class. This will assist you in getting benefits when you're converted. The training can be completed prior to your conversion date.

2024 National Convention August 5-9 Boston, MA.

We will have a Delegates Meeting scheduled for Thursday 7/18/24 with the Stewards Meeting.

July 14th is the last day to change or cancel a room through Maritz housing.

July 18th First day to contact hotels directly.

Food Drive Day was May 11, and we reported a total of 612,276 pounds of food collected. That is the lowest amount collected since the 1st Drive in 1993. Our Branch finished 2nd in our category. Tampa Branch 599 finished 1st in the Nation and Clearwater Branch 2008 finished 4th. The State of Florida had a total of 6 million 432 pounds.

Last month we received a last-minute notice of basic Steward Training at Region 9 office presented by the National NALC Trainers. The class had place for only 30. We sent a brand-new Steward Daevid Brown.

During a Presidents Meeting on July 1, 2024, we received confirmation that the National Committees are in a lockdown status.

TIAREAP extension expired on May 31 without any exit strategy. However, it was a pretty successful process for Region 9.

- Teams evaluated and adjusted 201 Zones, adding 108 Routes.
- 105 new Auxiliary Routes
- Converting 52 Auxiliary Routes to Fulltime Routes
- Reducing only 22 Routes to Auxiliary Routes and losing 32 Full Routes and 1 Auxiliary Route over the life of the agreement.

We can expect to see a return of the RCI proves now with this ending. In fact, we were given notice of a Route Count and Inspection in Englewood on only 2 routes and an auxiliary route beginning Saturday 7/13/24.

We will have training ready for the Carriers in place if we are scheduled for any RCI in the fall.

President Henschen shared about a Fayetteville Postal Employee who died after spending hours in the back of a mail truck in 95-degree day. A Supervisor who had done a 3999 sitting in the back of the LLV had gone to the restroom after getting back to the station. She was found unresponsive there and died. She was 51 years old.

Legislative update-Heather Manley-Protect your Letter Carriers Act introduced in March in the

House and has 91 co- sponsors. It has been sent to the Senate and it's been assigned to a committee. The Social Security Fairness Act HR 82 has gone to the Ways and Means Committee and the Senate has a different version of it and it is going to the Finance Committee. The Federal Retirement Benefit Act has 113 co-sponsors. The Shipping Equity Act is going to the Oversight Committee.

Good of the Service:

This month we have presented 4 **Gold Cards:**

- Terry Johnson St. Petersburg (at last month's meeting).
- Hank Goettelman, St. Petersburg (retirees' breakfast)
- Roy Vandermeer, Pinellas Park (retiree breakfast).
- Robert Gibson, Punta Gorda (at his home).

70-year Plaques:

- Dave Meiers, Pinellas Park
- Edsel Jones, St. Petersburg
- Joseph Marchiselli, St. Petersburg

75 -year Plaque

Gilbert Migliano, St. Petersburg

Many of the members that have moved from the area are being mailed their memberships and Gold Cards.

Door Prize Drawing:

Lotto – Scratch Off Ticket

Daevid Brown

Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act

article by Joe Henschen

Postal Service policy on accommodating pregnant and nursing workers.

The Postal Service has issued a policy on providing pregnancy-related accommodations to employees. The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires employers to accommodate pregnancy-related medical restrictions if an employee has a qualifying disability. However, under the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act — also known as the PWFA — employers must provide reasonable accommodations to employees with known limitations resulting from pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, including lactation.

Employers must provide reasonable accommodations, whether or not the limitations result in a disability under the Rehabilitation Act, unless accommodations would impose an undue hardship. Also, under the PWFA, employers such as the Postal Service must not:

- Require a job applicant or employee affected by pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions to accept an accommodation that was not arrived at through an interactive process.
- Require an employee with pregnancy, childbirth or related limitations to take leave under any leave law or policy if another reasonable accommodation can be provided that allows the employee to continue working.
- Deny job opportunities to an applicant or employee based on the need for reasonable accommodations related to pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions.

Employees who need guidance on responding to a request for pregnancy related accommodations should contact their Steward or NALC local officer to assist in reaching the local reasonable accommodation committee, area employment law office or district labor relations or human resources office.

The Pregnancy Workers Fairness Act

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) requires the Postal Service to provide reasonable accommodations to known limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, unless the accommodation will cause the employer an “undue hardship.”

Examples of possible reasonable accommodations include:

- The ability to sit or drink water.
- Receive closer parking.
- Have flexible hours.
- Receive appropriately sized uniforms and safety apparel.
- Receive additional break time to use the bathroom, eat, and rest.
- Take leave or time off to recover from childbirth.
- Be excused from strenuous activities and/or activities that involve exposure to compounds not safe for pregnancy.

Additionally, under the PWFA, the Postal Service may not:

- Require an employee to accept an accommodation without a discussion about the accommodation between the worker and the employer.

- Deny a job or other employment opportunities to a qualified employee or applicant based on the person's need for a reasonable accommodation.
- Require an employee to take leave if another reasonable accommodation can be provided that would let the employee keep working.
- Retaliate against an individual for reporting or opposing unlawful discrimination under the PWFA or participating in a PWFA proceeding (such as an investigation).
- Or Interfere with any individual's rights under the PWFA.

Protections to Pump at Work

Under the Fair Labor Standards Act, most employees have the right to take reasonable break time to express breast milk for their nursing child. For one year after the child's birth, covered employees may take reasonable break time “each time such employee has need to express the milk.” An employer may not deny a covered employee a needed break to pump.

Employees must be provided with a private location, other than a bathroom, which is free from intrusion.

Under the FLSA, when an employee is using break time at work to express breast milk they either:

- Must be completely relieved from duty; or
- Must be paid for the break time.

Employees that utilize their paid breaks to pump breast milk must be compensated for the break time as normal.¹

¹ NALC.org, Safety and Health



Legislative Update

By Gene Carroll, CDL District 15

The House Committee on Education and the Workforce reported the Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (H.R. 618). This action follows the June 13 committee markup of the bill. Under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA),

only physicians can treat federal employees, including letter carriers, who are injured on the job. Unfortunately, in many parts of the country, there is a shortage of physicians who will treat these cases, resulting in “provider deserts” for injured letter carriers who are seeking treatment. H.R. 618 would amend FECA to allow nurse practitioners and physician assistants to treat these cases, expanding care options for injured letter carriers.

At the markup, the committee unanimously advanced the legislation, and the bill’s leads, Reps. Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Joe Courtney (D-CT) spoke in favor of the bill. Ranking Member Bobby Scott (D-VA), Rep. Lucy McBath (D-GA), and Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) also spoke in support of the bill.

Prior to the markup, NALC submitted comments to the committee for the record. In the 117th Congress, the House passed the bill with a 325-83 vote, but no action was taken in the Senate. With 55 bipartisan cosponsors in the House, if called to the floor it is likely to pass again, but a path in the Senate remains unclear. Sens. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Susan Collins (R-ME) have introduced a companion bill in the Senate (S.131) that currently has five cosponsors.

Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Josh Hawley (R-MO) introduced the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R. 7629/S. 4356). The Senate companion bill comes after Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Greg Landsman (D-OH) introduced the bill in the House in March, which currently has 71 cosponsors. The bipartisan legislation, which mirrors H.R. 7629, would provide \$7 billion in funding for the Postal Service to secure its infrastructure, including the installation of high-security collection boxes and the replacement of items carried by letter carriers with more secure electronic versions. The funding would be appropriated over five years, \$1.4 billion annually in fiscal years 2025-2029. When key infrastructure is devalued and more secure, letter carriers will be safer on their routes.

Additionally, the legislation would increase prosecution rates for these crimes by requiring the Attorney General to appoint an assistant U.S. attorney in each judicial district to prioritize any case involving an assault or crime against a letter carrier. Their principal responsibility in the district would be to coordinate and supervise the investigation and prosecution of these crimes.

The bill would also strengthen sentencing guidelines for these crimes, ensuring that they are treated in the same manner as assaults on Federal Law Enforcement Officers.

Since 2020, there have been more than 2,000 crimes committed against letter carriers on the job. Many of these attacks involve a gun or another weapon. Letter carrier robberies climbed to 643 last year, an increase of nearly 30 percent, and the number of robberies resulting in injuries doubled, according to the United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS). “NALC appreciates Sen. Gillibrand and Sen. Hawley’s leadership in introducing the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act. Every employee has the right to be safe and protected on the job. Our hope is that this legislation will deter these violent crimes and keep letter carriers safe on the job,” NALC President Brian L. Renfro said. “I urge Congress to pass this bill that would protect the nation’s letter carriers who dutifully deliver medications, checks, ballots, packages, and other essential mail that all Americans depend on.”

“Amid a concerning uptick in postal crime, I’m proud to be introducing this critical bipartisan legislation to protect our mail and those who deliver it,” Sen. Gillibrand said. “This bill will make long-overdue upgrades to mailboxes around the country to safeguard against the theft of Americans’ sensitive information. It will also strengthen penalties for assaulting a postal worker, helping ensure that the hard-working men and women who deliver our mail are not put in harm’s way because of their jobs. I look forward to getting this bill passed.” “Postal carriers work day in and day out to fulfill critical needs, like package deliveries, that Americans often take for granted,” Sen. Hawley said. “The recent uptick in violent assaults against these men and women is unacceptable and inexcusable. Congress should protect our postal workers on the job, and that starts by increasing enforcement of the law for crimes committed against them.”

NALC

Steward Meeting Attendees

Meeting was held at the Hall and on Zoom and led by President Joe Henschen and Executive Vic President Chris Hubble

July 18th:

Wyatt Stribling, Scott Held, Olbin Flores-Elvir, Erica Baker, Tiffany Naughton, Patrice Cannonier, Javier Urrutia, Anthony Roger, Jody Dodd, David Mills, Tim Cox, Eric Short, Scott Archbold, Jillian Iulucci, Patrick Jacques, Heather Manley, Laurann Rose, Daevid Brown, Donny DeMilta, Brian Andrews, Jon Robinson, Sheldon Jones, Jacob Lovelace

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Alt 9 & 10	Ken Domingos	(716) 598-1205
Euclid	Wyatt Stribling	(727) 480-6121
Alt	Patrick Green	(813) 671-4770
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August, 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Executive Board Meeting	2	3
4	5 Pinellas Park Retiree Breakfast	6 St. Pete Retiree Breakfast	7 Largo Retiree Breakfast	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 General Membership Meeting	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Steward's Meeting	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31