

Representing the Stations of
Civic Center – Encino – Panorama City – Sherman Oaks – Sun Valley – Tarzana – Van Nuys Main

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

Modified Interim Alternate Route Adjustments Process (MIARAP)

With the continued decline in mail volume over the recent months, the National Association of letter Carriers and the United States Postal Service have agreed to another route adjustment process to be implemented some time between June and August of this year. I want everyone to at least have the opportunity to be aware of what that agreement is, because every station will be affected in some way. Therefore, my article this month will be used show every member the process as it was agreed to. The full agreement is reprinted below;

1. The parties will appoint a joint NALC/USPS route evaluation team(s) in each District who will be used to implement the methodology outlined below (with the NALC team member compensated on a no loss, no gain basis). In Districts with more than one team, a lead team will be established. The evaluation team(s) will be responsible for data analysis, route evaluation and adjustment, and oversight of jointly conducted carrier consultations. The NALC representative on the evaluation team(s) will be appointed by the National NALC President while the USPS representative will be selected by the District Manager.

2. The District Evaluation and Adjustment Teams will use the following review periods to evaluate/adjust the routes in delivery units that were not evaluated/adjusted under the October 22, 2008, Interim Alternate Route Adjustment Process, unless the District Evaluation and Adjustment Team mutually agrees to select a different period.

EVALUATION PERIOD	ANALYSIS START DATE	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD
March – April	May 1	June 1 – July 31
April - May	June 1	July 1 – August 31

3. The District Evaluation and Adjustment Teams will use the following review periods to revisit the evaluations/adjustments in delivery units that were evaluated/adjusted under the October 22, 2008, Interim Route Adjustment Process, unless the District Evaluation and Adjustment team mutually agrees to select a different period. If the 2009 Interim Adjustments were implemented on or before January 31, the evaluation period will be March, with

analysis start date of May 1, and implementation June 1 – July 31. If the 2009 Interim Adjustments were implemented between January 31 & February 28, the evaluation period will be April, with analysis start date of May 1, and Implementation June 1 – July 31. If the 2009 Interim Adjustments were implemented after February 28, the evaluation period will be May, with analysis start date of June 1, and Implementation July 1 – August 31.

Sites implemented in May 2009 under the October 22, 2008 Interim alternate route adjustment process can use September data for the initial follow-up review and follow the schedule outlined below for analysis and implementation.

EVALUATION PERIOD	ANALYSIS START DATE	IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD
September	October 1	Nov 1 – Jan 31
October	November 1	Jan 1 – Feb 28
November	December 1	Jan 1 - Feb 28

No adjustments will be implemented between November 15 and January 1.

DATA INTEGRITY

Data integrity issues will be addressed prior to any analysis and adjustments. Such issues include, but are not limited to, amended clock rings, work hour transfers, and designation of work hour codes. Volume for the selected period by Route will include Cased Letters and Cased Flats.

OFFICE EVALUATION

The District Evaluation and Adjustment team will select from the lesser of the following for the data analysis review period when determining the evaluated office time on each route.

1. The regular carrier's actual average total office time (which includes any auxiliary assistance and anomaly adjustments), for the data analysis review period, or
2. The estimated standard for the route using the average cased volume (which includes any anomaly adjustments) on the route for the data analysis review period. The adjusted estimated standard is the sum of the following:
 - A. The average cased letters divided by 18, plus
 - B. The average cased flats divided by 8, plus
 - C. The average cased letters divided by 70, plus
 - D. The fixed office time (while the minimum FOT of 33/43 is normally used, the team should review the route's

(Continued on Page 2)

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	2	3	1	4	4						
ENCINO	4	5	3	7	6						
CIVIC CENTER	2	2	1	1	3						
PANORAMA CITY	4	4	4	3	2						
SHERMAN OAKS	4	4	6	6	4						
SUN VALLEY	1	1	2	2	2						
TARZANA	2	1	2	2	2						
RETIREE'S	4	4	5	4	4						
TOTAL	23	24	24	29	27						

MEETING PLACE OF BRANCH 2462, NALC
6910 HAYVENHURST AVE., SUITE 101
VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

JUNE
2nd
"2009"

DEADLINE DATE FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE OF "THE MAIL CALL" IS

June 2, 2009

BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505
O P C PERSONNEL OFFICE....818-374-5600
E-Mail.....NALCBRANCH2462@sbcglobal.net

"RETIREE CORNER"

Our Breakfast Meeting will be held at Denny's Restaurant, (Corner of Sherman Way & DeCelis). It will begin at 09:00 AM. The next 2 dates will be May 23rd & June 27, 2009 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar....We hope to see you there.

Thank
You

Frank Buech

base FOT and carrier's input to ensure that the FOT selected is representative of the route). If necessary, the team can request that specific elements of fixed office time be observed and recorded. The District Evaluation and Adjustment Team will consider feedback from the carrier's initial consultation regarding the routes office time and regarding the above components used for the data analysis review period, to ensure that the office time selected is representative of the route.

The District evaluation and Adjustment team will consider the following when determining the evaluated street time on each route.

- A. The regular carriers actual average total street time (which includes any Aux assistance and anomaly adjustments), for the data analysis review period.
- B. A valid base street time and a representative PS Form 3999 for the route.
- C. Feedback from the carrier initial consultation regarding the routes street time, and regarding the above data, to ensure that the street time selected is representative of the route.

All actual office and street time data used will be based on the performance of the regular carrier as described above. On vacant routes or routes where the data for the regular carrier is not available for the analysis period, the parties may use the data from a mutually agreed to replacement carrier.

Joint consultations will be conducted with each carrier to obtain his/her input regarding the evaluation and proposed adjustments. No adjustment will be finalized until after the carrier consultations have taken place.

The teams will be guided by section 243.21.b, 243.22, & 243.23 of Handbook M-39 when adjusting routes.

A current 3999 will be used by the District Team to determine the street value of territory transferred.

The associated office time for the territory transferred will be jointly determined using any of the methods in the M-39 section 243.315.b.

In any unit where the team determines that the number of routes will be reduced, preference should be given to selecting auxiliary routes, vacant routes, and then routes held by junior carriers, provided such selections are efficient and effective. Additionally, carrier seniority should be considered when excessive route changes are anticipated, provided such consideration does not adversely affect the efficiency or effectiveness of the adjustments.

When available, Carrier Optimal Routing (COR) will be jointly used the District Evaluation and Adjustment Team as a tool for route optimization and adjustment.

Vice President's Report

by
Janette Dolabson

Hi folks. I can not remember a time in my union activism that we have been any busier then we are right now. I am not talking about the volume of mail and the hours of carrying. I am talking about dealing with all the changes, all the new processes, the treatment of our injured employees, out of control managers who don't seem to believe there is any accountability for them. Things are stressful and hectic and challenging. But, we will persevere. Somehow we get through it all. Time moves on and with time comes changes. We must accept that change is here. We will be having at least 2 route inspections this year. But with those comes a new process of doing them that makes it less stressful and, hopefully will have less impact on us. We all know there has been a drastic reduction in the amount of mail we now deliver. Most of our routes are now under 8 hours. Let me tell you a bit about this new joint process that we are implementing immediately with the USPS. It's called MIARAP and stands for Modified Interim Alternate Route Adjustment Process. Under this process all routes in this country will be inspected and adjusted jointly. That means the union will be in on all the decisions and verify all the data and make sure that this process is done with the best interest of both the carrier and the Postal Service. There are over 150,000 routes across the country.

Basically this process consists of teams, the National Oversight Team who over sees the process and will resolve any issues that come their way, the Area/Regional Teams who will consist of NALC National Business Agent or Designee and an area Manager Delivery Programs Support or their designee. This team will monitor and resolve issues with the district teams. The District Lead Team members will oversee the process and resolve issues from the District Evaluation and Adjustment team and make the schedules and coordinate everything. The District Evaluation and Adjustment teams will be responsible for data analysis, route evaluation and adjustment, and jointly conduct carrier consultations and lastly there is the Local Teams. These teams will be the Postmasters/Station Managers or their designees and the NALC Branch President or their designee for the unit. They will provide information to the district teams and perform initial and adjustment consultations.

Calvin Brookins will be our Local Team contact. Bob Johnson and I will be on the District Evaluation and Adjustment Teams. Our Branch will definitely have a voice in this process. You will have a voice in this process. We have to start working together to help secure the future of the Postal Service. Let's try and make this as smooth a transition period as we can.

Carriers don't like change. Most people don't like change. Change is scary, but it is unavoidable. We will come out on the other side of this and we will still be here, and the Postal Service will still be here and we will be fine. Most routes will be different. Most of us will have new faces and names to deliver to, but that's what we do, we deliver the mail.

By
Larry Dolabson

Summer is on its way and people are going to be taking their vacations. Did you know that more then 50,000 people a year seek treatment for injuries related to lugging luggage? Here are some safety tips the help keep you from being one of those statistics.

First, pack lightly. Most people bring way more then they need to. Try bringing a smaller bag.

Second, use bags that are on wheels. This will reduce the time you will be carrying the full weight of the luggage. Choose sturdy, light pieces with 4 wheels or 2 wheels and an extendable handle. When pulling wheeled baggage or carrying bags, avoid fully straightening you arm. Instead, keep that arm bent and closer in to your body. If you must use stairs, carry your rolling luggage as you climb or descend.

Thirdly, use smart lifting techniques. Lift luggage with your leg muscles, not your back and waist. Stand next you your suitcase, bend at the knees, then grasp the handle and straighten up. Avoid twisting and don't rush. Carry luggage close to you as possible. If using a shoulder bag, be sure the strap is padded and switch sides often.

Lastly, don't overdue. Check heavier bags and if you need help ask for it.

ATTENTION RETIREE'S !!!

You may be familiar with the saying "There is no such thing as a Free Lunch" While this may be true, it does not pertain to Breakfast. The Branch holds a Retiree Breakfast meeting every 4th Saturday of the Month. No Voting, just a friendly get together to talk and eat. The best thing is

IT IS FREE !!!

That's right, if you are a retired member in good standing of Branch 2462 your Breakfast is provided at no charge, that's right

FREE !!!!

So what are you waiting for, meet with us this month.

When 4th Saturday of Every Month
Where Denny's Restaurant,
(Corner of Sherman Way & DeCelis).
Time 9:00 AM

If you have trouble with transportation contact FRANK BRASH and we will try and arrange for a ride. Come on out, you will have a great time, and the price is right !

Health Benefit Update

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"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

Steve Seyfried, Editor
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101
Van Nuys, CA 91406

Address Service Requested

Branch Meeting Minutes May 5, 2009

By
Steve Seyfried, Secretary

The Meeting was held at the Branch 2462 Union Hall 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave, Van Nuys California. It was called to order by PRESIDENT BROOKINS at 6:48 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by MBA Rep BOB ENZ

MOMENT OF SILENCE—In Memory of All past members who have passed this year, and all our military personnel who have sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT-- BROOKINS, J. DOLABSON, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, MULLINAX, JACKSON, WILSON, L. DOLABSON, ENZ

ABSENT—ASKEW

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP—NONE

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT No Report
TRUSTEES All is well
SAFETY & HEALTH Area is sending out teams to watch Carriers on the street, so make sure you are working in a safe manner and following the safety rules.

EDITOR New postal rules no longer allow the stapling of the paper, we must use tabs. The Board has contacted the printer who will tab the paper and give a paper type upgrade for an additional \$ 85.00 per month. We should still see the paper come in under budget this year, but some additional funds may have to be allocated in next years MailCall budget.

RETIREEES 4 retiree's present tonight. Very good turnout for the Retiree Breakfast. Thanks to the Branch for providing this great forum and food. Active members who have the day off are welcome also. The Breakfast is held on the 4th Saturday of each month.

HBR—L. DOLABSON All stations should be getting a stand up on the swine flu. Watch for article in MailCall. Any questions contact Larry.

MDA \$1610 currently in fund. Bowl-a-thon being planned for late June has been put on hold till at least September or October, when leagues are over. We are selling tickets to the LA Sparks a basketball game. You will be allowed to shoot baskets on the Staples floor before the game and also meet with some players. Contact the Union office for more information or ask your Shop Steward.

MBA—ENZ Finally received the updated information of the various MBA plans available. Will be going through the info.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept Financial reports as read M/S/C
VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Food Drive is ready to go. All coordinators will receive their checks for refreshments. Plans for the media day on May 8th. are set and we hope to get our message out over both radio and TV. T-shirts have been passed out to all who ordered them and they should be worn the entire week preceding the Food Drive. Standups have been given in all stations. Food Drive information cards will be delivered by all Carriers on the Wednesday before the Food Drive. We look forward to very successful Food Drive this year. So it is very important that we all pitch in and do what we do best, serve our customers and the community.

PRESIDENT BROOKIN Gave his report on latest important items which he will cover in his article in the MailCall. **PRESIDENT Brookins** gave an extensive report on his trip to Sarasota, New York for the Committee of Presidents meeting. **Vice President JANETTE DOLABSON**, Financial Secretary/Treasurer **BOB JOHNSON** and Trustee **TRACY MULLINAX** gave reports on their trip to Las Vegas, Nevada for the off year convention session. They also gave extended information on the new Interim Route Adjustment program which will be going into effect very soon.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the Saxsenmeier Scholarship Fund
M/S/C

MOTION—Branch pay the unsecured LA County Property Tax bill. Cost to the Branch \$ 185.00
M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANOMOUS VOTE

OLD BUSINESS

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

MDA DRAWING

\$ 6 JEFF JACKSON—PANORAMA CITY
\$ 6 JOHN GARY—SUN VALLEY
\$ 10 RAY MOLA—ENCINO Donated \$ 5.00

Meeting Adjourned 9:14 PM