

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

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NUMBER 9

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

First, I would like to thank the members of NALC Branch for electing our executive officers by acclamation at the last Branch meeting. I would like to say welcome to newly elected officers William Powers, SGT at Arms and Richard Duenez, MBA and Francisco Valenzuela, Editor. Congratulations to all Elected officers!!

I would like to thank those officers who have served the branch in elected positions and those who have moved on or moved into different positions. I am proud of all of you and privileged to have served with you, past, present and into the future.

I would also like to welcome new shop steward Elizabeth Bocanegra who will be a shop Steward in the Main Office beginning October 1, 2020. She is a welcomed edition to the team. Congratulations Liz! In addition to Liz, William Powers will be an alternate Steward in the Encino Station.

ESAS:

Recently National President met with a USPS representative and reached an agreement on the delivery initiative entitled

Expedited Street/Afternoon Sortation (ESAS).

The parties agree that the ESAS pilot test is concluded and terminated as of August 19, 2020. Any future modifications or alternate applications to Expedited Preferential Mail (EPM) Delivery Program, as enumerated in Section 144 of the Handbook M-39, Management of Delivery Services and Sections 223, 450, and 924 of the Handbook M-41, City Delivery Carriers Duties and Responsibilities, will be subject to discussion through the City Delivery Task Force.

MOU M-01928:

NALC and the Postal Service have agreed to a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that increases the maximum allowable annual leave carryover amounts outlined in the Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM). For leave year 2021, regular work force career employees covered by the USPS-NALC National Agreement may carry over 520 hours of accumulated annual leave from leave year 2020 to leave year 2021. Normally, as defined in ELM 512.321(a.),

bargaining unit employees have a maximum leave carryover of 440 hours.

This agreement does not modify any other provisions outlined in the ELM, including provisions for payment of accumulated leave. The MOU (M-01928) can be found in NALC's Materials Reference System on the NALC website.

Families First Coronavirus Response Act:

"The NALC has received notification from the Postal Service that leave taken under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act is not eligible for retirement and Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) deductions. This is in accordance with guidance issued by the Office of Personnel Management which oversees both benefits.

Those that have taken leave under the FFCRA will be issued refunds by the Postal Service for any retirement and TSP contributions which will be reflected on your October 2, 2020 paycheck.

Leave used under the FFCRA (Emergency Paid Sick Leave and Emergency Family and Medical Leave Act Expansion) will not impact creditable service time towards retirement eligibility. This leave does not impact the High-3 Average Salary calculation used for an annuity computation. The annuity calculation for full-time career employees will not be impacted.

However, use of FFCRA leave for part-time career employees will have an impact on annuity calculations. Annuities with a part-time career component are prorated based on the hours worked when compared to a full-time position. Leave taken under FFCRA is not considered basic pay and is treated similarly to periods of Leave Without Pay (LWOP), which does not increase the total hours worked for the part-time component calculation. NALC members may contact the NALC retirement department with questions regarding part-time career service.

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VICE PRESIDENT' REPORT

By
JOHN BURTON

For Leave Year 2021, Maximum Annual Leave Carryover Amount Increased from 440 Hours to 520 Hours

NALC and the Postal Service have agreed to a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that increases the maximum allowable annual leave carryover amounts outlined in the Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM). For leave year 2021, regular work force career employees covered by the USPS-NALC National Agreement may carry over 520 hours of accumulated annual leave from leave year 2020 to leave year 2021. Normally, as defined in ELM 512.321(a), bargaining unit employees have a maximum leave carryover of 440 hours

Families First Coronavirus Response Act Impact on Retirement and Thrift Savings Plan

The NALC has received notification from the Postal Service that leave taken under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act is not eligible for retirement and Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) deductions. This is in accordance with guidance issued by the Office of Personnel Management which oversees both benefits.

Those that have taken leave under the FFCRA will be issued refunds by the Postal Service for any retirement and TSP contributions which will be reflected on your October 2, 2020 paycheck.

Medical Leave Act Expansion) will not impact creditable service time towards retirement eligibility. This leave does not impact the High-3 Average Salary calculation used for an annuity computation. The annuity calculation for full-time career employees will not be impacted.

However, use of FFCRA leave for part-time career employees will have an impact on annuity calculations. Annuities with a part-time career component are prorated based on the hours worked when compared to a full-time position. Leave taken under FFCRA is not considered basic pay and is treated similarly to periods of Leave Without Pay (LWOP), which does not increase the total hours worked for the part-time component calculation. NALC members may contact the NALC retirement department with questions regarding part-time career service.

Carriers that wish to, may change their election of FFCRA leave to a different type of leave (such as sick or annual) to keep their retirement and TSP contributions. To avoid a refund, all requests must be entered in AdjustPay before September 11, 2020.



ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	1	6	7	C	C	C	C	C		4	
ENCINO	4	8	5	A	A	A	A	A		4	
PANORAMA CITY	3	4	3	N	N	N	N	N		3	
SHERMAN OAKS	4	3	3	C	C	C	C	C		3	
SUN VALLEY	1	0	0	E	E	E	E	E		0	
TARZANA	1	1	0	L	L	L	L	L		2	
RETIREE'S	4	5	5	E	E	E	E	E		3	
TOTAL	18	27	23	D	D	D	D	D		19	

**MEETING PLACE OF BRANCH 2462, NALC
6910 HAYVENHURST AVE., SUITE 104
VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA**

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**OCTOBER
6th
"2020"**

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

Oct 9, 2020

**WEB PAGE.... WWW.NALCBRANCH2462.ORG
BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505
O P C PERSONNEL OFFICE.....818-374-5600
E-Mail.....Branch2462nalc@gmail.com**

"RETIREE CORNER" ATTENTION: !!!

All Breakfasts have been cancelled until further notice. To all our Retiree's and Regular Members we hope that you are staying safe in your homes during this crisis.

Bob Johnson

President's Report

(Continued from Page 1)

Carriers that wish to, may change their election of FFCRA leave to a different type of leave (such as sick or annual) to keep their retirement and TSP contributions. To avoid a refund, all requests must be entered in Adjust Pay before September 11, 2020.

All TSP eligible employees may change their TSP election at any time during the year.

The FFCRA will expire December 31st, 2020, and any unused leave will be forfeited." PR

Heat Awareness:

Whenever there is high heat, outdoor workers are at increased risk for heat-related illnesses and deaths. In fact, every year thousands of workers experience heat-related illnesses, and dozens more are killed by heat, and it happens in every part of the country...

The workers most at risk for heat-related illness are in construction and agriculture, but there are many outdoor workers in other industries who are at increased risk as well. These include workers in transportation, sanitation and recycling, building and grounds maintenance, landscaping services, oil and gas operations, and anyone else who does strenuous work in the open air.

We need your help to get the word out to employers that they are responsible for providing workplaces that are safe from excessive heat. This means regular breaks for workers so they can cool down. It means regular access to water so workers can stay hydrated. It means training for workers on the symptoms of heat illness—and what to do if they see a co-worker showing signs of dehydration or heat stroke.

- Hydrate before, during and after work. Prevention is important, so make sure to maintain good hydration by drinking at least 8 ounces of water every 20 minutes.
- Dress appropriately for the weather. On warm days, make sure to wear light colored, loose fitting, breathable clothing to keep body temperatures down.
- Utilize shade to stay cool. When possible, use shaded areas to stay out of direct sunlight.
- Know the signs of heat stress. You should understand what heat stress is, and how it can affect your health and safety. Here are some things to look out for:
- Finally, it's important to notify your supervisor or call 911 if you're experiencing signs of heat-related illnesses (see below).
- Drink plenty of liquids.
- Watch for symptoms of HEAT EXHAUSTION and HEAT STROKE

Symptoms of heat exhaustion: Headache, Nausea , Dizziness conditions, Weakness , Thirst, Elevated body temperature, Decreased urine output.

- Be prepared to act by learning correct first aid procedures ahead of time.

A Heat Incident Report must be filled out if your office has a heat related incident and a copy must be given to union and NBA office



HEALTH BENEFITS REPORT

BY

LARRY DOLABSON, HBR

OPEN SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT 2020

Open season to elect health benefits begins November 9th, 2020 and ends December 14th, 2020

I urge you consider enrolling into the NALC Health Plan this open season.

Diagnostic testing for COVID-19 will now cover physician ordered diagnostic testing at 100% for patients that meet the CDC guidelines for COVID-19. We will also cover the associated office visit at 100%. (if tested on that day)

High option members: If you use a PPO provider, your office visit co-payment will be waived. If you use a non -PPO provider, we will pay 100% of the plan's allowance for the office visit.

"THE MAIL CALL"

BRANCH 2462, NALC

Francisco Valenzuela, Editor

6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 104
Van Nuys, CA 91406

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Branch Meeting Minutes September 1, 2020

By
Steve Seyfried, Secretary

The Meeting was held at ASKEW HALL 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave 104, Van Nuys California. It was called to order by PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON at 6:59 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Janette Dolabson

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory All members of the NALC and U S Military who passed this year. Thank you all for your Service

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--- J. DOLABSON, BURTON, SEYFRIED, JEFFREY, MACARAEG, WILSON, L. DOLABSON

ABSENT---MULLINAX, JOHNSON, ENZ

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

HECTOR JACOBO SALAS, ALEXIS ECHEGOYEN, ANTHONY RAMIREZ, ANDREW DIAZ, ROBERTO LOPEZ, MANUEL ROBLES, ASHLEY APPIAH, BYANKA ORDONEZ, ARIYAN SHUFFORD, NILOUFAIR KHAFAJZAD, ANTHONY CHAVEZ, AMINISH SINGH, BRYAN MENDOZA, KATHERINE HOLMES, ALEXANDRA MORALES, JOHN OCHOA, STEPHANIE ARELLANO, LARRY ARRIOLA RAMIREZ, STEVEN McDONNELL, DON KING DENNA, ALFREDO HERNANDEZ JR.

BILLS READ---NONE

MOTION---Branch suspend business and go directly to Nominations for Branch Officers

M/S/C

NOMINATIONS OPENED

PRESIDENT	JANETTE DOLABSON	*
VICE PRESIDENT	JOHN BURTON	*
RECORDING SECRETARY	STEVE SEYFRIED	*
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	TRACY MULLINAX	*
TREASURER	TIA WILSON	*
SGT-AT-ARMS	WILL POWERS	*
HEALTH BENEFITS REP	LARRY DOLABSON	*
MUTUAL BENEFITS REP	RICHARD DUENEZ	*
EDITOR	FRANCISCO VALENZUELA	*
TRUSTEES (3)	JEYMAYEN MACAREAG	*
	PAUL JEFFREY	*
	ROBERT JOHNSON	*

* **INDICATES ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

Good of the Association

There is a Letter Carrier Resource Guide available to all active members on the NALC website at NALC.ORG. Go to site and in the upper righthand corner you will see MEMBERS PORTAL. Click on that button and follow the instructions. This section is full of informative and interesting items that you will find helpful and interesting. Congratulations to AL JOHNSON, MAHAMMED SIDDIQUI and VICTOR SANCHEZ from Sherman Oaks Station on their RETIREMENT !!!!! the end of August. We wish you only the best on your new journey. Congratulations also to ALFREDO HERNANDEZ JR. who was sworn in as a new member of Branch 2462 tonight. We hope that you will continue to come to meetings and participate in the Branch activities.

Meeting Adjourned 7:55

NEWEST ADDITIONS TO BRANCH RETIREE LIST

I want to send out my heart felt congratulations to the newest members of the Branch Retiree Group. AL JOHNSON, MOHAMMED SIDDIQUI and VICTOR SANCHEZ. All retired at the end of August from the Sherman Oaks Station. All of these gentlemen served with honor and integrity for their entire careers.

I was lucky enough to work with all of them during my 35 years at Sherman Oaks and count each as a colleague and a friend. They were 3, amongst many, I could always count on to have a supportive word while dealing with some dumb headed move on managements part.

Al and Victor would always come up to me after I had some verbal altercation with management during a stand-up and thank me for speaking and offering their support. I was lucky enough to work next to Mohammed, Sid as we called him, sorry the name was just to long, LOL He always had a smile on his face and he helped me a lot to get through some bad times. He always had a positive attitude and made coming to work much more tolerable.

I guess this illustrates how important people are in our lives, and that we all should take the time to thank those around us. The workplace is made much easier to endure, when we are surrounded by interesting and caring people.

STEVE SEYFRIED, RETIREE