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June 14, 2001

Mr. William Burrus Executive Vice President American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO 1300 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005-4126

Dear Mr. Burrus

This is in response to your May 11 letter to Anthony J. Vegliante, Vice President, Labor Relations, submitting the union's understanding of the issues involved in the union's Step 4 appeal in case HQT G 20017.

At this time, there is no dispute between the parties regarding application of the provisions of Article 6 and the Veteran's Preference Act. If and when the Postal Service initiates action that requires application of Article 6, Preference Eligible employees will be afforded their full rights associated with Article 6 and the Veteran's Preference Act.

To date, the Postal Service has not initiated action under Article 6 and until it does, this issue is moot. I hope this clarifies any misunderstanding the APWU has been under with regard to reassignments under Article 12 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Since there is no dispute at this time, we expect the APWU will withdraw its' appeal in writing with respect to the above case.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 268-3811.

Sincerely,

Manager

Contract Administration