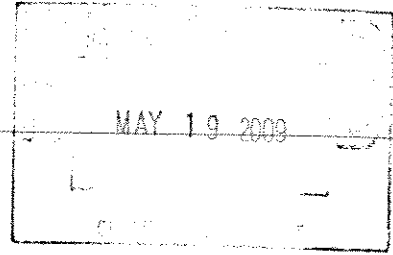


LABOR RELATIONS



#8



May 15, 2009

Mr. William Burrus
President
American Postal Workers Union,
AFL-CIO
1300 L Street NW
Washington, DC 20005-4128

Certified Mail Tracking Number:
7002 0860 0006 9347 2857

Dear Bill:

Fiscal year 2009 has been extremely challenging for the Postal Service and its employees. As you know, the Postal Service has responded to dramatic decreases in mail volume, but more needs to be done. We appreciate all that you have contributed to the success of the response. Like mail volume, window transactions at our retail units have substantially declined. The Postal Service is considering consolidating operations in our larger stations and branches. This effort could include possible termination of leases and/or movement of operations from Postal Service-owned facilities. As a consequence, employees working in those retail/delivery facilities may be reassigned to other retail/delivery units, and/or other facilities, or other duties in accordance with the relevant provisions of the applicable collective bargaining agreements.

District Managers will be adding a focus to the discontinuance of operations by reviewing all classified stations and branches in Level 24 and above post offices (see enclosure). These offices have experienced serious volume, transaction, and revenue declines. The Postal Service will be using the current procedures that are in place for studying the activities of an office for possible discontinuance. Many factors including impact on employees, service standards, cost savings, customer access, environmental impact, real estate values, and long-term needs of the service would be taken into account during the reviews. We would expect these local manager reviews to result in a significant increase in the number of lease terminations and/or facility disposals. Until the process is initiated and the reviews are completed, we will not know which leases or owned facilities, if any, will be terminated or sold, or the impact on employees.

The Postal Service welcomes your input into this critical matter. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting to discuss this issue, please contact Patrick Devine at (202) 268-5421.

Sincerely,

John W. Dockins
Manager
Contract Administration (APWU)

Enclosure

ACTION PLAN - CLOSING OF STATIONS - #8(a)

Special Thanks: Mike Gallagher & Vince Tarducci

LETTER WRITING AND PHONE CONTACTS

You must write to your Senatorial, Congressional, State and Community representatives as well as the Local Postmaster, the District Manager involved in the determination to close the Station or Branch, the Area Vice President and the Postmaster General voicing your objection to the closure of the Station and Branch. Have customers contact Senatorial, Congressional, State and Community representatives as well as the District Manager, Area Vice President and the Postmaster General outlining the impact on them personally and their need for Postal Services in the immediate community.

MEDIA OUTLETS

Write letters to the editors of local and community newspapers advising of the looming closure and state your objection to the closure and reasons therefore and ask that the local constituency contact their Senatorial, Congressional, State and Community representatives as well as the above referenced Postal Managers. Contact the local television and radio outlets soliciting their interest in the story of the Station or Branch closure and how it will adversely affect the community it serves.

PETITIONING

Formulate a Petition opposing the closure of the Station or Branch and collect names, addresses and signatures from people in the community serviced by the Station or Branch, copy and forward the petition to the PMG, Area VP, District Manager as well as Senatorial, Congressional, State and Community representatives.

MOBILIZE OTHER UNIONS & AFL-CIO INVOLVEMENT

Most Stations and Branches have carriers working out of them and some larger ones have mail handlers employed there. Coordinate your efforts with the NALC and the Mail Handlers Union in regard to all of the above outlined strategies. In unity there is strength. Also, coordinate with your State Fed and/or Central Labor Council and ask for their help and support.

CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS

Closing a Station or Branch and moving employees into the Main Post Office will probably be accomplished via internal excessing procedures under Article 12.5.C.4 and Item 18 of your LMOU and/or the Article 37 bidding process. Unless there is external excessing under Article 12.5.C.5, my office is not notified. Regardless of whether it is internal or external excessing the APWU position is that the Union must receive six months notification before employees can be reassigned.

REQUESTS OF INFORMATION - DISCUSSIONS & ARGUMENT

Request any and all information related to the managers' rationale for considering the closure of the Station or Branch. Request information related to other Post Office services available within the community where the Station or Branch is located. (This will show an effort to contract out Postal jobs) Request any information related to craft impacts for all crafts working at the Station or Branch. Request information related to whether the facility is owned or leased. If owned by the USPS ask what they are going to do with the building, if leased ask for a copy and the status of termination (will there be lease termination costs, etc.)