



THE UNION VOICE

APWU FLASH BULLETIN



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*Flash Bulletins are paid for by members of the APWU.
 Information contained in these bulletins is intended for APWU members only!*

Updates Bulk Mail Center (BMC)

The Union(s) attended a meeting with local Management last Thursday, July 30, 2009, specifically for the purpose of addressing the upcoming changes that will impact the BMC. Effective August 1, 2009, we were informed that the BMC will be referred to as the NDC or Network Distribution Center.

The changes that will occur most imminently are due to the USPS and their restructuring of BMC's to NDC's and the various classifications they have given to each of the 21 BMC's nationwide. Only four of the restructured and named NDC's will be classified as Tier 3 NDC's with six being classified as Tier 2 and the remaining eleven as Tier 1 NDC's.

The significance is that the Tier 3 NDC's will gain a lion's share of the work to be performed in the network while the Tier 1 NDC's will suffer a substantial decrease in work. The factor the USPS has used in determining which would be what is primarily the location in which each of the facilities were in as pertaining to the trucking and logistics of moving the mail across the country.

The other factor that sets us apart from other NDC's across the country is the current addition of the St. Paul Processing and Distribution Center onto our existing Facility. Just the NDC changes alone but in place an extremely complicated and fluid situation for the Union to navigate as Management reveals more of what the final NDC snap shot will entail. Once the added aspect of the construction and what operations will go where is added you can imagine that it will be an unprecedented and challenging undertaking for everyone involved.

The Union will use all resources available including day to day consultations with our National Officers to make sure we do everything possible to minimize what appears will be a significant impact to our members and ensure all contractual and legal obligations are satisfied. In order to give as much and expeditious information as possible Management published and distributed a USPS Newsbreak document at the BMC to reveal what they informed us of at our meeting on July 30th. In this document which gave potential numbers of employees who could be impacted it was also advised that meetings would be conducted on August 18th and 20th for BMC crews. **We have learned today that those meetings will be postponed and rescheduled for early September.** In the interim we will be working to identify areas where the Lead Plant Manager and her staff may be able to minimize the ultimate impact and increase options to all affected.

| COPA 2009 |
|--------------|
| \$15,000 - |
| \$12,500 - |
| \$10,000 - |
| \$ 7,500 - |
| \$ 5,000 - |
| \$ 2,500 - |
| \$ 0 - |

Stations – Branches – Optimization – Consolidation (SBOC)

We previously published the names of several Post Offices in the 554 delivery zones and one in a 553 delivery zone that were targets in this USPS venture that if realized will serve to further weaken and reduce viable retail options for citizens who rely on professional postal services.

On Friday, July 31, 2009, we learned that a questionnaire/survey was sent out to **Butler Quarter – Commerce – Dinkytown & Crystal** Post Offices through the Postmaster's office with unconfirmed instructions that they be placed in PO Boxes. The surveys appear to be designed to garner information that will be used in order to determine if a Post Office will be closed.

Obviously the Union has many questions about the survey and the integrity of the entire process that will have to be answered after the fact. We have presently lodged complaints with Congressman Keith Ellison and Senators Klobuchar and Franken due to this fly by night and undefined method of supposed public notification. We also fear that this is merely a designed move to ultimately rely upon in order to justify the closing of these offices.

We have several requests for information into those responsible to address the many questions there are regarding these most recent developments. We have also been calling in order to gain information from targeted stations that may be useful when the APWU attends a meeting with the Postal Regulatory Committee that is scheduled to occur soon. In addition to the previously listed offices, the **Brooklyn Park – Diamond Lake – Edina – Nokomis – Plymouth & Richfield** Post Offices are on the USPS SBOC list. **Hopkins**, which had previously been identified, has been taken off the front burner for now but members need to stay alert and vigilant.

We need all members who may be impacted by these offices closing to immediately contact your representatives to ask them to make sure the USPS gives advance notice and a chance for meaningful input to as many people who rely of postal services provided by these offices as possible. The process they use should be advertised in advance and transparent to all who may be affected. If a member is aware of any community groups who may have an interest in keeping these offices and the services they provide give them our office number and ask them to speak with either Jerry or Peggy to learn more about what the USPS is planning for their Post Office and postal services. We want exposure on this and need everyone's help, attention and cooperation. If you would like to be a contact for any of the listed Post Offices, call us immediately at 612-623-0677!