



Bulletin

Contract ratification update

National rap session: June 13-15

So that the tentative National Agreement can be fully discussed with branch and state leaders prior to the ratification voting, the 2017 National Conference—better known as a “rap session”—will be held June 14-15 at Harrah’s Resort in Atlantic City, NJ. National rap sessions for state and branch presidents/designees are authorized in non-convention years by the NALC Constitution under Article 3, Section 4 (b).

The rap session will be used to educate branch leaders about the proposed contract. It’s hoped that this will give all NALC members the opportunity to attend a branch meeting following the rap session to learn about the tentative agreement and to get questions answered prior to submitting ratification ballots.

The rap session itself will be held on the morning of Wednesday, June 14. Workshops will be conducted on Wednesday afternoon and repeated in the morning on Thursday, June 15. There will be two three-hour workshops held simultaneously on Wednesday afternoon, each covering various topics of interest and importance to branch and state leaders. Those same workshops will be repeated on Thursday morning so all attending the rap session will have a chance to hear all of the information covered.

Workshop registration will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 13, with a reception in the evening. Additional registration will take place on the morning of June 14 prior to the rap session. The workshops on Thursday, June 15 will conclude by noon.

A limited number of rooms have been set aside for attendees at the Harrah’s Resort Atlantic City & Waterfront Conference Center. See details below, and visit nalc.org for the link to hotel and travel information.

Rap session venue: Harrah’s Atlantic City



Harrah’s Resort Atlantic City & Waterfront Conference Center is a hotel and casino located at 777 Harrah’s Boulevard in the marina district of Atlantic City, NJ.

Harrah’s is pleased to offer a special rate of \$79 per room (single/double). Rates are also subject to \$2 tourism fee, \$3 New Jersey State occupancy fee and \$24 per night, per room Resort Fee, which includes free in-room internet access for two devices per room, per night and \$5 voucher toward self-parking in the garage.

A charge of \$20 will be added for each guest over double occupancy, with a maximum of four guests per room.

Hotel reservation and cancellation policy: All reservations and any changes needed to have been made by the cut-off date of *Saturday, June 3*. After this date, reservations will be accepted by the hotel based on availability and hotel rate.

To make reservations, call the hotel’s reservation department at 888-516-2215 and use the group code SH06NA7 or reference NALC 2017 Rap Session to receive the group rate. To make reservations online, use the following case-sensitive link: <https://aws.passkey.com/go/SH06NA7>

Rates cannot be changed at check-in or check-out for guests who fail to identify their affiliation with NALC at the time the reservation is made.

All reservations require first-night deposit, including taxes, at time of reservation. This will be charged immediately and is refundable up to 72 hours in advance of arrival date.

Parking: Self-parking: \$5. Valet: \$10. Rates subject to change.

Options for getting there:

- *By air:* Flight options include Atlantic City International Airport (ACY) and Philadelphia International Airport (PHL). Harrah’s is 60 miles from PHL, 15 minutes from ACY.
- *By Amtrak:* <https://www.amtrak.com>
- *By limo/shuttle* (Philadelphia to/from Atlantic City):
 - HalLogistics: <http://www.hallogistics.com>
 - ShuttleWizard: <https://shuttlewizard.com>
 - RapidRover: <http://www.rapidrover.com>

2017 National Conference Agenda

Tuesday, June 13

Waterfront Conference Center, 2nd Level

Workshop registration, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Avalon Registration Desk

Welcome reception, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Pool, Level 1

Wednesday, June 14

Waterfront Conference Center, 2nd Level

Continental breakfast, 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

Avalon Pre-Function Area

Workshop registration, 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

Avalon Registration Desk

Rap session, 8 a.m. to 12 noon

Avalon Ballrooms

Workshops, 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Avalon Ballrooms

Thursday, June 15

Waterfront Conference Center, 2nd Level

Continental breakfast, 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

Avalon Pre-Function Area

Workshops, 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Avalon Ballrooms

Ratification process details

Rolando appoints national Ballot Committee

Per Article 16 of the *NALC Constitution*, ratification shall be a mail referendum vote and the ballot shall be mailed only to regular members of the NALC as defined in Article 2, Section 1 (a), excluding non-letter carrier regular members as shown by the records of the national secretary-treasurer as of 90 days prior to the date that the proposed agreement is reached—which was May 12. Consistent with Article 2, Section 1 (a) of the NALC Constitution, retirees and Office of Workers’ Compensation Program (OWCP) departees shall have no voice or vote in any matter pertaining to the ratification of a national working agreement.

NALC President Fredric V. Rolando has appointed the Ballot Committee for the purpose of monitoring and observing the dispatch, receipt and tabulation of the ratification ballot for the tentative National Agreement reached between NALC and the U.S. Postal Service. The Ballot Committee is made up of 15 NALC members from branches in no fewer than 15 states. The members of the committee are:

- Region 1: Barbara Stickler, Garden Grove, CA Branch 1100
- Region 2: Phillip Rodriguez, Salt Lake City Branch 111
- Region 3: Mack Julion, Chicago Branch 11
- Region 4: Adam Fung, Aurora, CO Branch 5996
- Region 5: Rod Holub, Manhattan, KS Branch 1018
- Region 6: Robyn Williams, N. Oakland Co., MI Branch 320
- Region 7: Caitlin Hill, Minneapolis Branch 9
- Region 8: Antonia Shields, Birmingham, AL Branch 530
- Region 9: Anthony Ali, Central Florida Branch 1091
- Region 10: Vanessa Sanchez, San Antonio, TX Branch 421
- Region 11: John Oross, Dayton, OH Branch 182
- Region 12: Eryka Tolliver, Pittsburgh Branch 84
- Region 13: Delano Wilson, Bowie, MD Branch 2611
- Region 14: Christopher Henwood, Rutland, VT Branch 495
- Region 15: Joe De Rossi, Jamaica, NY Branch 562

The Ballot Committee will arrive in Washington, DC, on June 19 to monitor and observe the mailing of the ballots.

Per the *NALC Constitution*, voting will be to either accept or reject the tentative agreement. Instructions will be included in the ballot mailing, as well as a copy of the complete text of the tentative agreement. Ballots will be due back on a specified date, likely in late July.