



Bargaining update

In the weeks since collective bargaining officially opened, NALC's bargaining team has been busy discussing proposals with our counterparts at the Postal Service. NALC has now presented and discussed almost five dozen proposals to make improvements to the National Agreement on a multitude of topics to improve the wages, hours and working conditions of letter carriers. Each change NALC has put forward came from the bargaining subcommittees, made up of Executive Council members and letter carrier staff at Headquarters. These subcommittees formed their proposals based on passed national convention resolutions, feedback from NALC's first ever Rank-and-File Bargaining Committees, ideas from branch and state leaders at the 2025 national rap session, and results from an active member survey conducted earlier this year. Each piece of feedback and information was instrumental as the subcommittees formed their bargaining proposals.

On the economic side, we've consistently worked with our counterparts to make clear our economic priorities. As negotiations continue, we will continue to prioritize goals that are most important to our members based on the feedback we've received.

House subcommittee holds hearing on financial future of USPS

On March 17, the House Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing titled "Oversight of the U.S. Postal Service: The Financial Future Under Postmaster General Steiner."

The subcommittee called Postmaster General David Steiner and David Marroni, director of physical infrastructure at the Government Accountability Office, to testify. Since Congress oversees the Postal Service, it is customary for the postmaster general to be called to testify. This was Steiner's first opportunity since assuming the position last summer to lay out his vision for the agency before the subcommittee.

In his opening remarks, Chairman Pete Sessions (R-TX) acknowledged that addressing the agency's financial situation was critical.

Ranking Member Kweisi Mfume (D-MD) recognized the recent threats facing the Postal Service, including President Trump threatening to put the agency under the Department of Commerce and fire the USPS Board of Governors last year. "The last thing we want is a privatized system," he said. Mfume also recognized postal employees' dedication and emphasized that no postal employee should ever fear for their safety while at work.

In his opening statement, Steiner said that if the "status quo" continues, the Postal Service will run out of cash in 12 months. He referenced declining mail volume, the agency's unfair Civil Service Retirement System pension obligations, USPS's frozen borrowing authority that has not been lifted in decades, the Postal Service being prohibited from responsibly investing its retiree and health pension funds, and USPS not controlling its workers' compensation claims for the current financial situation. He called on Congress to act now by raising the borrowing authority. "One easy action—increasing our borrowing authority—buys us time. Time that we can use to best determine what the Postal Service should do to best serve the American public," he said.

First, he told the subcommittee that if nothing was done to financially help the Postal Service, service cuts would be inevitable. While NALC will continue to lead efforts to urge Congress and the administration to make necessary financial fixes, we will never tolerate or accept service cuts. Service cuts would drastically harm letter carriers, customers, and the entire economy.

Following the hearing, NALC submitted comments to the record to the subcommittee. In his comments, NALC President Brian L. Renfroe reiterated that NALC supports and has advocated for several of these commonsense financial solutions for years. However, Steiner made suggestions that NALC fully opposes and will not accept. "Service cuts are unacceptable under any circumstance," Renfroe wrote.

Along with the harmful threat of service cuts, Steiner also suggested modifications on federal workers' compensation for postal employees.

In NALC's comments, Renfroe fully opposed this request. "A recent OIG report found that the Postal Service spent more than \$800 million on grievances in a three-year period. Giving an agency that struggles to uphold the basic provisions of a collective-bargaining agreement sole control over something as critical as workers' compensation claims is unacceptable, irresponsible and disrespectful to the workforce. The Postal Service cannot be given an opportunity to use this as an out to fix its financial problems. Any attempts to reduce costs by harming the dedicated public servants who provide this service will not only harm employees but ultimately impact the level of service for Americans," Renfroe said.

While the hearing centered on the Postal Service's finances, the undertones of potential threats were clear. Even the mention of service cuts or changes to workers' compensation benefits are major red flags that cannot be ignored.

"We'll keep fighting like hell for a secure future for the Postal Service," Renfroe said in a statement following the hearing. "But we'll fight even harder against those who push any changes that would diminish the critical service we provide or harm our dedicated, hardworking members," he said.



Postmaster General David Steiner testifies before a House subcommittee.



Food Drive Day is May 9

The nation's largest single-day food drive is almost here. The Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive is Saturday, May 9.

Letter carriers have teamed with other postal employees and volunteers to collect food since the first national food drive in 1993. Donations are collected from postal patrons who leave a bag of nonperishable food next to their mailbox on the second Saturday in May.

One in 5 Americans, including millions of children, senior citizens and veterans, are unsure where their next meal will come from. The Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive helps to replenish food pantry shelves in spring and summer, when holiday food donations are depleted and schools are closing for the summer.

"Letter carriers know the struggles that people in their communities face—they see it every day," NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said. "For more than three decades, we've helped to meet their needs each May, and it's time to pull off this annual miracle again."

The annual food drive wouldn't be possible without the support of our national partners: the U.S. Postal Service, the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, RR Donnelley, United Way Worldwide, the AFL-CIO, Valpak, Nutri-Grain and CVS Health. These partners help by paying for the specially marked postcards, donating thousands of pounds of food and thousands of dollars to food pantries, donating bags that letter carriers distribute to customers, gathering volunteers, or getting out messages about the food drive.

NALC's communications team at Headquarters and our national partners will continue spreading the word and raising awareness for the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Remember to follow the food drive's official social media accounts on Facebook at facebook.com/StampOutHunger and on X at @StampOutHunger to stay up to date and learn more about NALC's national partners. To find or send messages about the food drive on either platform, use #StampOutHunger.

Food Drive Day doesn't end until we weigh the donations to measure our success. Branches must report the pounds of food they collect via their Members Only portal by June 7.

Letter carriers who have questions about the food drive should contact their local branch coordinator. Regional and state food drive coordinators are available to assist; a contact list can be found on the Food Drive Tool Kit page at nalc.org/toolkit under the heading "Important information for coordinators." More information about the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive can be found online at nalc.org/food.



Deadlines approaching for convention

Deadlines for the 74th Biennial National Convention Aug. 3-7 in Los Angeles, CA, are approaching.

Delegate eligibility lists for the convention were mailed in February. The lists must be completed and returned to the office of Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Rhine at NALC Headquarters no later than June 3 for branch representatives to be registered as delegates to the convention.

All proposed amendments to the NALC Constitution to be submitted for consideration at the convention must be received by Rhine's office by June 3 as well. That date is 60 days in advance of the convention, as prescribed by the NALC Constitution. Proposed amendments will appear in July's Postal Record for the membership to review.

Resolutions to be considered by delegates also must be received by the June 3 deadline to be printed in the Resolutions and Amendments book provided to delegates. Resolutions received after June 3 still may be considered at the convention.

Branches wishing to sell items in the designated branch sales area during the convention must contact Rhine's office to secure guidelines and forms. The completed forms must be returned to Headquarters by June 3 as well.

Go to nalc.org/convention for more convention news.

Travel discounts for convention

Southwest Airlines

Southwest Airlines is pleased to offer NALC's 74th Biennial National Convention attendees discounted fares. To use the discount, book via SWABIZ® at: swabiz.com/air/booking/index.html?companyId=90139895. Discount valid for travel Aug. 1-8, 2026.

Delta Air Lines

Delta Air Lines is pleased to offer special discounts for the National Association of Letter Carriers. You may call Conferences and Events® at 800-328-1111 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time and refer to Meeting Event Code NY4FR. Please note that there is not a service fee for reservations booked and ticketed via the reservation 800-number.

Shuttle information

Complimentary shuttle service is provided between the Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) and the following hotels:

Hotel	Route	Shuttle Boarding Location at Hotel
InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown	1	Curbside on 7th St
Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites	1	Curbside on Figueroa St
Hilton Checkers Los Angeles	2	Walk to the Biltmore - Across Street from Entrance on Grand Ave
Hotel Per La, Autograph Collection	2	Walk to Sheraton Grand - Curbside on Hope St
Sheraton Grand Los Angeles Downtown Hotel	2	Curbside on Hope St
The Biltmore Hotel	2	Across Street from Entrance on Grand Ave
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Los Angeles Downtown	3	Curbside on Los Angeles St
Omni Los Angeles Hotel	3	Curbside on Olive St

Walkable Hotels		
AC Hotel Downtown Los Angeles		
Courtyard Los Angeles LA Live		
E-Central Downtown Los Angeles Hotel		
Hotel Figueroa		
Hotel Indigo Los Angeles		
JW Marriott Los Angeles at LA Live		
Residence Inn Los Angeles Downtown LA Live		

Hours of Service		
Saturday, August 1	11:30 AM - 5:30 PM	Service every 20-30 minutes*
Sunday, August 2	8:30 AM - 2:30 PM 2:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Service every 20-30 minutes* Service every 10-15 minutes
Monday, August 3 through Thursday, August 6	6:30 AM - 10:30 AM 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Service every 10-15 minutes Service every 20-30 minutes* Service every 10-15 minutes
Friday, August 7	6:30 AM - 9:00 AM 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Service every 10-15 minutes Service every 20-30 minutes* Service every 10-15 minutes

*Scheduled departures from convention center	Shuttle Information & Special Assistance
Schedule may vary due to traffic & weather conditions. Last bus leaves from hotels 60 minutes prior to published end time. Last bus leaves from convention center at published end time.	Please call at least 60 minutes prior to desired pick-up time (310) 900-9525
Transportation Managed By: Production Transport®	

This is a preliminary schedule and is subject to change. Please check the signage in your hotel lobby upon arrival in Los Angeles for the most up to date information.



House postal caucus briefed

On March 5, prior to PMG Steiner's testimony, NALC President Brian L. Renfroe and other postal union and association leaders briefed the House postal caucus on the most pressing issues facing letter carriers and all postal employees.

President Renfroe addressed the unprecedented crimes and assaults letter carriers continue to face and urged the caucus to advance the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R. 1065).

He also explained necessary changes needed to improve the agency's finances. These include a new investment strategy for USPS retiree health and pension funds, a fair recalculation of the agency's Civil Service Retirement System pension obligations, and an increase in the agency's borrowing authority, which hasn't been increased in decades. He emphasized that if the caucus seeks to improve service, these changes are essential. "For service to improve, the Postal Service must modernize and have the ability to invest in its infrastructure. That infrastructure includes facilities, vehicles, technology and—most importantly—its employees," he said, and added, "These policy changes will give them that ability."

With Postmaster General David Steiner testifying for the first time before Congress on his priorities for the Postal Service, it is essential for the caucus to centralize these policies and avoid any proposals that undermine service, the network, or employees' safety, benefits and job security.

Representatives from the American Postal Workers Union, the National Postal Mail Handlers Union, the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, the National Association of Postal Supervisors, and the United Postmasters and Managers of America also addressed the caucus.

The postal caucus is a bipartisan group of 26 representatives focused on employee safety, improving service, and the Postal Service's financial future. The caucus is co-chaired by Reps. Jack Bergman (R-MI), Nikki Budzinski (D-IL), Andrew Garbarino (R-NY) and Chris Pappas (D-NH).

Reps. Nick LaLota (R-NY), Emily Randall (D-WA) and James Walkinshaw (D-VA) also attended the roundtable.

Shut Down Hunger donates more than \$525,000



Augusta, GA Branch 263 President Athena Franklin (c) and Secretary-Treasurer Melissa Deans (r) make a donation on behalf of the branch to the Golden Harvest Food Bank.

In November, NALC organized a Shut Down Hunger campaign. The initiative called on branches to make monetary donations to local food banks during the longest federal government shutdown in history. NALC committed to matching all donations that were submitted by Jan. 31, 2026.

There were 142 branches and state associations that donated \$263,269 to food banks across the country (see list in the April issue of The Postal Record). With NALC's match, the Shut Down Hunger effort raised \$526,538 for food banks nationwide. According to Feeding America, this amounts to 5.26 million meals for those in need.

Delivering to every neighborhood and community in the country, letter carriers know when people are struggling. That struggle heightened last fall as letter carriers continued working uninterrupted during the shutdown. In communities, letter carriers are often the first to notice when something is wrong and take action.

"When we saw the prolonged effects of the government shutdown, we knew we had to step up," NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said. "And we knew that if asked, our members would chip in to help those in need."

"I am extremely proud and appreciative of every single branch and state association that donated. Our results are remarkable and will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on communities across the country," President Renfroe added.

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