



Ballots for NALC national election to be mailed in September

The National Election Committee, appointed at the Los Angeles convention to conduct the election of national officers for NALC, met on Aug. 17 to set the rules, procedures and dates for the election. It also conducted a random drawing to determine the order in which candidates' names will be placed on the ballot for each contested national officer position. Candidates for national office will appear on the ballot in the following order:

President

—James Henry, Garden Grove, CA Br. 1100
—Lew Drass, Huntsville, AL Br. 462
—Nicole R. Rhine, Lincoln, NE Br. 8
—Michael Caref, Chicago, IL Br. 11

Executive Vice President

—Manuel L. Peralta Jr., Garden Grove, CA Br. 1100
—Corey Walton, Nashville, TN Br. 4

Vice President

—Mark S. Camilli, Northeastern NY Br. 358
—Kimetra Simpson-Lewis, Dallas, TX Br. 132

Secretary-Treasurer

—Raquel “Rocky” Acasio, San Diego, CA Br. 70
—Mack I. Julion, Chicago, IL Br. 11

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

—Larissa Parde, Lincoln, NE Br. 8
—Esteban Ramirez, San Antonio, TX Br. 421

Director of City Delivery

—David L. Mudd, Louisville, KY Br. 14
—Christopher Jackson, Garden Grove, CA Br. 1100

Director, Safety and Health

—Shawn Boyd, Dallas, TX Br. 132
—Rob Kosier, Milwaukee, WI Br. 2

Director of Retired Members

—Daniel Toth, Lorain, OH Br. 583
—Anita Guzik, Los Angeles, CA Br. 24

Director of Life Insurance

—James W. “Jim” Yates, Long Island Merged, NY Br. 6000
—Phillip C. Rodriquez, Salt Lake City, UT Br. 111

Director, Health Benefit Plan

—Henry Cordero, Beverly Hills, CA Br. 2293
—Kevin Sommers, State College, PA Br. 1495
—Stephanie Stewart, Central Iowa Mgd. Br. 352

National Trustees

—John A. Cruz, Brooklyn, NY Br. 41
—William Heller, Knoxville, TN Br. 419
—Sandra D. Laemmel, Detroit, MI Br. 1
—Jeffrey Wagner, West Palm Beach, FL Br. 1690
—Howard K. Komine, Honolulu, HI Br. 860
—Elise M. Foster, Chicago, IL Br. 11
—David J. Grosskopf Jr., Buffalo-Western New York Br. 3
—Charles P. Heege, New York, NY Br. 36

Elections for national business agents (NBAs) in Regions 3, 4 and 5 are unnecessary, as each had a single nominee. The following were elected by acclamation for NBA in those regions: Region 3—Ronny Morgan, Region 4—John Robles, and Region 5—David Teegarden.

The election will be conducted by mail ballot in accordance with the *NALC Constitution* and applicable federal law. Under the oversight of the National Election Committee, the American Arbitration Association will prepare, print and mail the ballots and tabulate the votes.

On or about Sept. 28, ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters. Official election instructions will be included with all ballots. To be eligible to vote, a person must be a member of NALC in good standing as of June 1, 2026. Any member who does not receive a ballot by Oct. 5 should contact the NALC Membership Department to request a replacement ballot. The Membership Department can be reached by telephone at 202-393-4695. The deadline to contact the Membership Department is 4 p.m. Eastern time on Oct 9.

To be counted, ballots must be received by noon on Oct. 19. The counting of ballots will begin that day or the next.

The National Election Committee is made up of: Brian Wiggins (chair), Seattle, WA Br. 79; Lamanda Bradshaw, Modesto, CA Br. 1291; Mike Hansen, Salt Lake City, UT Br. 111; Veronica Ramirez, Arlington Heights, IL Br. 2810; Kathy Walter, Tucson, AZ Br. 704; Morgan Harrington, Southwest Michigan Br. 246; Linda Johnson, Duluth, MN Br. 114; Sylvin Stevens, Charlotte, NC Br. 545; Juan Munoz, Corpus Christi, TX Br. 1259; Monique Mate, Rochester, NY Br. 210; Michele Galda, Camden, NJ Mgd. Br. 540; Melissa Johnson, Rockville, MD Br. 3825; Joseph Stearns, Massachusetts Northeast Mgd. Br. 25; Eric Lomax, Jamaica, NY Br. 562; and Mike O'Neill, New Jersey Mgd. Br. 38.

Bill expanding federal workers' access to workers' compensation providers advances

On Aug. 6, the Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (S. 3296) advanced out of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Prior to the committee's consideration, NALC sent a letter urging the committee to approve the bill.

The bill would expand access to providers by amending the Federal Employees' Compensation Act to allow federal workers, including letter carriers, injured on the job to receive treatment from physician associates/physician assistants (PAs) and nurse practitioners (NPs). Current law prohibits PAs and NPs from treating federal workers in workers' compensation cases.

Increasingly, PAs and NPs provide critical care to patients, especially in rural and underserved communities. This bill would increase the number of eligible providers, making it easier for injured federal workers, including letter carriers, to access the care they need.

In June 2025, the House Committee on Education and the Workforce unanimously approved the House companion bill (H.R. 3170). The next step is for the bill to be considered on the floor of both chambers; however, with limited floor time, it is unclear if a vote will be scheduled.

NALC will continue pushing for this priority bill to receive a full vote in the House and Senate.

Executive order limiting vote-by-mail faces hurdles in court

In late March, President Trump issued an executive order that would severely limit vote-by-mail. The order gives the Postal Service new responsibilities much outside its typical, constitutionally mandated operations. It grants USPS the authority to reject and refuse delivery of ballots unless states comply with newly established federal eligibility lists. The order tasks the Department of Homeland Security with building these state lists of voting-age American citizens.

Since issued, the executive order has faced scrutiny, pushback and challenges in the courts. On Aug. 11, the executive order hit another roadblock when a district judge in Boston expanded on a previous decision, writing that the executive branch has no authority to regulate elections.

On Aug. 21, the Postal Service published a rule detailing how it planned to carry out the executive order. Days later, on Aug. 24, the Supreme Court ruled that USPS could move forward with the new rule, stating that any halting was premature since the plans were not yet finalized. The Supreme Court did not rule on the legality or constitutionality of the executive order.

In a statement, NALC President Brian L. Renfro called the Supreme Court's ruling “the latest development in a broader effort to diminish the credibility of mail-in voting, undermine the dedicated work of the nation's 200,000 active city letter carriers, and suppress Americans' access to the ballot.”

The process will continue to play out in the courts, with more lawsuits expected. NALC is closely monitoring these cases and opposes any efforts that question the validity of or aim to eliminate vote-by-mail.

