



Members of the NALC Executive Council traveled to Nalcrest, FL, in January to discuss important issues facing letter carriers. Items the Council addressed included the Safety and Service Initiative, conversions of part-time flexible and city carrier assistant employees, OWCP, organizing, the grievance/arbitration process, LMOU impasses, Article 12 events, test sites, other contractual issues and the upcoming National Convention in Philadelphia. The council also discussed key legislative items, including the bill introduced by Sens. Tom Carper (D-DE) and Tom Coburn (R-OK). The Executive Council was given an extensive tour of Nalcrest and took part in Nalcrest's 50-year celebration.

## Safety and service program underway

**N**ALC President Fredric Rolando recently announced a new joint effort to identify and address safety issues for America's letter carriers as well as issues with service to postal customers. During the program, joint teams will look at offices with safety issues, whether during daylight hours or after dark, and will examine issues that affect service to postal customers, such as routine delivery after traditional delivery hours.

The first areas addressed were Chicago and the Postal Service's Capital District, which includes Washington, DC, and its Maryland suburbs. NALC and USPS headquarters representatives held a series of meetings with management and the branches involved at the district and local levels. The teams are taking a look at all possible factors causing these safety and service issues, including letter carrier start times, transportation schedules, staffing, route adjustments and the structure of routes. As of press time, the joint team was in the process of beginning the review of the Detroit area.

"It is crucial that we dig deep to find the true causes of these problems," Rolando said. "While the problems are often obvious, the causes and the solutions are sometimes not so obvious.

"While there are common causes of some problems, the causes often differ from office to office, so the solutions will differ as well. Tapping into the knowledge that our branch leaders have is an important piece of this effort," he said.

The national parties consider the scope and severity of the safety and service issues when prioritizing locations to be reviewed. The reviews are then scheduled as quickly as possible. The parties are in the process of identifying future locations for review.

"I strongly encourage our branches to report to their national business agent's office any delivery units that have safety issues, whether during daylight hours or after dark, or issues that affect service to customers, such as routine delivery after traditional delivery hours," President Rolando said. "We can and will look at any data we have available to identify these offices, but there is no substitute for the knowledge that our branch leaders and members have.

"Nothing is more important than the safety of those who deliver our nation's mail, and quality service to our customers is something letter carriers are proud of and care deeply about. We will continue to work hard to address both of these issues head-on." **PR**

## Deadlines for the NALC National Convention in Philadelphia

**D**elegate eligibility lists for the 69th biennial national convention have been mailed to all branches. The lists must be completed and returned to Secretary-Treasurer Jane Broendel's office at NALC Headquarters no later than May 21 in order 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 Broendel's office by May 21. That date is 60 days in advance of the convention, as prescribed by the *Constitution*. Proposed amendments will appear in this June's *Postal Record* for the membership to review.

Resolutions to be considered by delegates also must be received by the May 21 deadline in order to be printed in the *Resolutions and Amendments* book provided to delegates. Resolutions received after May 21 still may be considered at the convention.

Branches wishing to sell items in the designated branch sales area during the convention must contact Broendel's office no later than April 7 to secure guidelines and forms. The completed forms must be returned to Headquarters by April 21.

NALC is planning a baseball night at Citizens Bank Park on Tuesday, July 22, and the retiring officers' dinner for Thursday, July 24. Details on both will be provided soon.

Go to [nalc.org](http://nalc.org) for more convention news. **PR**