

National election appeals denied

The National Election Committee met at NALC National Headquarters in Washington, DC, during the week of Jan. 6 to review the election-result appeals that the committee received in December from four unsuccessful candidates in the 2014 election of NALC national officers. The results of the national election were published in the December 2014 *Postal Record*.

Following a thorough review, the committee's decision was to deny the appeals submitted by candidate for national president David Noble, candi-

date for national trustee Eryca Bloom, candidate for vice president Deidre Beal and candidate for assistant secretary-treasurer Sharella Spikes.

Letters from the committee notified the appellants of this decision.

Unfortunately, during the investigation of the appeals, NALC's election contractor, Peake-DeLancey, discovered that there were errors in the preliminary report of the election results in the final report that was mailed to branches. None of these errors affected the outcome of the election for any office. Moreover, the

vote totals reported for each individual branch in the final report are accurate. However, in some regions the branch totals were not added correctly, which, in turn, resulted in errors in the national total. The corrected national vote totals for each candidate are actually higher than the totals reflected in the report.

As this issue of *The Postal Record* went to press, Peake-DeLancey was working on the preparation of a corrected report that will be posted on the NALC website. Please check the website for updates on this situation. **PR**

COLA: Cost-of-living adjustment

- ▶ There was **no projected accumulation** toward the fifth cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for letter carriers under the 2011-2016 National Agreement following the release of the December 2014 Consumer Price Index (CPI). This COLA will be based on the increase in the CPI between July 2014 and January 2015 and will take effect in the second full pay period after the release of the January CPI.
- ▶ There also was **no projected accumulation** toward the 2016 COLA for retired members. That COLA will be based on the increase in the average CPI between the third quarter of 2014 and the third quarter of 2015.
- ▶ The 2015 COLA under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) was set at **0.3 percent** following the release of the December 2014 CPI. The COLA is based on the increase in the CPI between December 2013 and December 2014 and will become effective on March 1.

Registration for 2015 Food Drive in full swing

NALC President Fredric Rolando has sent a letter to branch presidents to encourage them to sign up as soon as possible to take part in the 23rd annual Letter Carriers' "Stamp Out Hunger" national food drive, set for Saturday, May 9.

"Our extraordinary history of filling local food shelves is possible because of the dedication and hard work of leaders such as you," Rolando wrote. "While our history provides us with confidence, what matters most is our renewed commitment to the Food Drive."

Included with Rolando's letter was the official branch Food Drive registration form. Branch Food Drive leaders can visit nalc.org/food to find these resources and much more—including the official artwork for this year's drive, designed by "Family Circus" artist Jeff Keane.

The Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is the nation's largest single-day food collection effort—last year, it gathered 72.5 million pounds of food, the 11th



consecutive year the drive surpassed 70 million pounds, bringing the total to more than 1.3 billion pounds since the national drive began in 1992.

The registration form must be returned by mail (no faxes or e-mails) to NALC Headquarters by Feb. 15. **PR**