Monitoring of USPS response to cyber breach continues

NALC is staying on top of the Postal Service’s handling of the cyber breach in September that compromised the agency’s computers that hold workers’ personal and employment information, including medical, injury compensation, banking, Social Security and other personal information.

On Nov. 10, NALC received the first notification from USPS about the hack. A few days later, the union filed an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board against USPS, alleging that the agency had violated its duty to negotiate with the NALC over the impact of the security breach on letter carriers. That charge remains pending.

Current and former USPS workers whose information was compromised by the breach should have received in December a letter from the Postal Service containing important new information.

Meanwhile, individual letter carriers may elect to enroll in the credit monitoring services offered by the Postal Service, with the knowledge that NALC may seek different or additional remedies.

Search for “hacked” at nalc.org to learn more.

In memoriam

Robert Buntz
NALC HBP director

Retired NALC Health Benefit Plan Director Robert Buntz Sr. died on Sunday, Dec. 7, in Hiawatha, IA, following a brief illness. He was 93.

Buntz was born on Jan. 27, 1921, in Des Moines. He served in the Army during World War II. He began his career as a letter carrier in 1948, going on to serve as Des Moines Branch 352 vice president for one year and then president for 16 years. He also held several positions in the Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers.

In 1978, Buntz was elected director of the NALC Health Benefit Plan, a position he held until his retirement in 1986.

Halline Overby
NALC assistant secretary-treasurer

Halline “Chug” Overby, a retired national assistant secretary-treasurer, died on Friday, Jan. 9, in Washington, DC. He was 94.

Overby was born Aug. 29, 1920, in St. Louis. He served in the Army during World War II.

In the 1960s, Overby moved to Los Angeles and became a letter carrier, joining Branch 24 and eventually becoming branch president. Later, he served as chairman of the NALC’s national Board of Trustees, and then as national assistant secretary-treasurer, a position he held until his retirement in 1990.

In retirement, Overby served as national director of the NALC’s Muscular Dystrophy Association fundraising effort, a position he held through 2006.

Pro-postal resolutions introduced as 114th Congress convenes

The 114th Congress was sworn in on Jan. 6, and in the House of Representatives, Reps. Sam Graves (R-MO) and Gerry Connolly (D-VA) wasted no time in renewing their commitment to preserving six-day mail delivery by quickly introducing H.Res. 12.

H.Res. 12 is identical to previous sessions’ resolutions that called on Congress and the Postal Service to take all appropriate steps to continue six-day mail delivery.

The version introduced early in the 113th Congress (2013-2014) wound up with 228 co-sponsors from both political parties. The new resolution already had 76 co-sponsors from both parties as this issue of The Postal Record went to press.

“Attempts to eliminate Saturday delivery or any other postal services are, in reality, short-sighted excuses for failing to address an onerous pre-funding mandate that perpetuates a cut-cut-cut mentality,” NALC President Fredric Rolando said. “Six-day mail delivery service meets the demands of American households and businesses, and we applaud Congressmen Graves and Connolly for leading efforts to preserve it.”

A few days later, Reps. Susan Davis (D-CA), David Joyce (R-OH) and Peter King (R-NY) introduced a resolution that calls on Congress to “take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of door delivery for all business and residential customers.”

The resolution, H.Res. 28, is identical to H.Res. 711, which was introduced last August during the 113th Congress and which ended up with 75 sponsors from both parties.

“This resolution affirms our message that cutting a vital service like door delivery is not the way to strengthen the Postal Service,” President Rolando said. “We are grateful to Representatives Davis, Joyce and King for introducing this resolution right out of the gate in this session of Congress.”

Visit nalc.org to download fact sheets and other information about these resolutions.

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