Oakland CCA shot while delivering in LLV

On July 7, CCA Michal Stafford was shot while driving her LLV near the 5700 block of Bancroft Avenue in Oakland, CA. Postal inspectors have said that the Greater East Bay Branch 1111 member doesn’t appear to have been the intended target.

Stafford had “just pulled away from the curb when multiple gun shots rang out—several of them hitting her LLV,” Branch President Ed Fletcher said. Police later found approximately 25 bullet casings near the scene.

Stafford, who was hit by a bullet in her left hip area, managed to pull the handbrake to stop her vehicle. She was hospitalized until the next evening.

Fletcher said that the bullet did not hit any vital organs and she would not require major surgery.

Fellow Branch 1111 member Farid Ait Djebara was the first one on the scene and called 911, the Postal Inspection Service and management. He waited with Stafford until emergency services arrived before continuing on his route.

Fletcher, the Oakland postmaster, the district manager, Employee Assistance Program (EAP) representatives and postal inspectors gave a stand-up talk at the Oakland Eastmont station about the situation and the availability of EAP services.

The Postal Inspection Service is offering a $50,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest of those responsible for the shooting.

NALC president appoints RAAs, RWCA and HQ staff

National Association of Letter Carriers President Fredric Rolando has announced a series of appointments:

- The president has appointed Cincinnati Branch 43 Vice President Doug Lape to NALC Headquarters as assistant to the president for city delivery, effective Aug. 7. Lape, a Marine Corps Reserve veteran, has also served Branch 43 as a shop steward and Formal A representative. He is a 2017 graduate of the NALC Leadership Academy.
- Rolando has appointed Long Island Merged, NY Branch 6000’s Jim Yates as an assistant to the president for collective bargaining, research and communications. Yates first came to NALC Headquarters in 2013 when Rolando appointed him as a field administrative assistant. In 2014, Yates was appointed assistant to the president for contract administration.
- Las Vegas Branch 2502’s Jeff Frazee has been appointed by Rolando to be a regional administrative assistant (RAA) for NALC Region 1, effective July 10. Frazee has held a number of roles within Branch 2502, including Formal Step A representative, shop steward and arbitration advocate.
- Rolando has appointed Philadelphia Branch 157’s Leo Zachwieja to be an RAA for NALC Region 12. Before his appointment as RAA (effective July 17), Zachwieja was the regional workers’ compensation assistant (RWCA) for NALC Regions 12, 13 and the New Jersey portion of Region 15. He has held numerous positions within Branch 157, including chief steward/treasurer and trustee, and he is a 2011 Leadership Academy graduate.
- Hagerstown, MD Branch 443’s Tonya Detrick has been appointed by Rolando as an RWCA to replace Zachwieja. Detrick has served as Branch 443’s president, vice president and secretary, and as the director of education for the Maryland/DC State Association of Letter Carriers. She was president of the state association from 2009 until her appointment as RWCA, effective July 17.

In other news, Region 1 RWCA Jeff Fultz has retired effective July 14. Fultz, a member of South Central Indiana Branch 828, served as an RWCA since he was appointed in 2014. Before that, he was an RAA for NALC Region 6 since 2005. He served Branch 828 in a number of capacities, including as an arbitration advocate and as a local business agent.