

Organizing and activism



**Brian
Renfroe**

Shawn Boyd, John Collins, Patty Joseph, Tim McKay and Jim Yates.

Our new director of city delivery, Chris Jackson, has the knowledge, work ethic and skills necessary to succeed in this position. I'm confident he will. I believe the future will show President Rolando made a wise selection.

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Organizing

NALC has a proud history of being one of the best-organized unions in America. We have been the best-organized open shop union for many years. More than 90 percent of letter carriers choose to join NALC.

Other unions and organizations often reach out to us to find out how we do it and look to implement our best practices. Our answers are simple: We work to ensure that we give every newly hired letter carrier the opportunity to join NALC. We also provide them with a wealth of information about their new job and their union through materials and our knowledgeable organizers who conduct orientation sessions with newly hired letter carriers throughout the country.

I'm grateful to President Rolando for the opportunity to serve as executive vice president. As one would expect, a change in office brings a change in responsibilities. What doesn't change is the importance of the commitment of all NALC leaders at every level to make decisions that are best for letter carriers.

For the last several years, I've had the privilege of serving as director of city delivery. I'm thankful for the membership's support that allowed us to achieve positive results for letter carriers on a variety of city delivery issues. I also want to thank the past and present Headquarters letter carrier staff members with whom I have been very fortunate to work:

While we should be proud, we have to continue to work hard to be sure we give every letter carrier the opportunity to join NALC. The structure we have in place is working well, but we must continuously look to improve. I'm thankful for the feedback and suggestions that we receive from our members, our organizers and branch leaders. Several of these ideas have been implemented nationally and proven successful.

Legislative activism

By the time this issue is published, a new Congress will be in session and a new administration will soon occupy the White House. When it comes to our jobs, there is a lot of uncertainty around what we can expect from this Congress and administration. At Headquarters, we have to be prepared for nearly any legislative possibility. We should also be prepared to mobilize our activists in the field.

We have members in every corner of the country, in towns large and small. The political views of our members vary widely. This political diversity is a strength. Protecting a strong public Postal Service that provides world-class service to the American people and maintaining quality middle-class jobs should not be partisan issues. Certainly there are NALC members of all political persuasions who support both. The political diversity of our messengers contributes to our success in promoting good legislation and defeating bad legislation.

There is no replacement for the local relationship between letter carriers and their members of Congress. We are fortunate to have hundreds of activists all across the country, in every congressional district, that have taken on the task of developing such relationships. Our elected officials hear from us in Washington, but it is equally important, and sometimes even more important, that these same officials hear about our issues from their constituents locally.

Every member should stay informed on legislative issues that could affect our jobs. The NALC website (nalc.org), and NALC Member App (available in the App Store on IOS and in the Google Play store on Android devices) are constantly updated with the latest information for NALC members. *The Postal Record* and *NALC Bulletin* also include the most current information available at press time.

Your representatives in Congress need to hear from you, the constituent, as well as you, the letter carrier and union member. The Government Affairs section of the NALC website and the NALC Member App contain a wealth of information. Any member who wants to get involved should feel free to reach out to the NALC Department of Legislative and Political Affairs for guidance by calling NALC Headquarters at 202-393-4695.