

# National convention registration and housing process; 2022 dues



**Nicole Rhine**

**T**he official convention call to the 72nd biennial convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers, to be held in Chicago Aug. 8-12, 2022, has been mailed to each NALC branch and state association. The branch convention call included a branch delegate allotment card advising each branch of the maximum number of delegates it can send to the convention per the provision of Article 4, Section 1 of the *NALC Constitution*, which provides for one delegate for each 20 members or fraction thereof. The number of delegates a branch is entitled to is based on the branch's active and retired membership as of Oct. 1 of the year preceding the national convention,

the "benchmark" date adopted by the delegates to the 2004 national convention. Branch officers should read the convention call thoroughly, since Articles 4 and 5 of the *NALC Constitution*—provisions concerning the election of delegates, voting strength and related issues—are explained there.

Information regarding the room rates of the NALC block hotels was provided on the NALC website and additional information is provided in this issue of *The Postal Record*. **The reservation process does not start until February—and not until the branch's delegate eligibility list (DEL) is received, delegates are registered and the credentials have been sent to the branch secretary.** NALC Headquarters will be advising its official housing company of all confirmed registered delegates. Anyone booking a room who is not a confirmed registered delegate at the time of the booking will be subject to cancellation and will receive a notice of such. **Any individuals who call NALC Headquarters to inquire about making reservations will be advised that they must go through their branch to make reservations, and that this cannot be done until the DEL has been received and processed, and credentials have been mailed to the branch secretary.** Do not contact the host branch officers about housing—they will not be able to assist you.

The DEL will be mailed to each branch on or about Feb. 1, and must be returned to my office no later than June 8. The DEL lists the branch's regular members in good standing as of Dec. 31, 2021. **No housing information is included in the mailing of delegate eligibility lists.** Branch secretaries should read the enclosed instructions thoroughly, complete the DEL fully and accurately, sign it, keep a copy for the branch and return the original to my office.

Reminder: All branches have the option to register their

delegates electronically rather than checking off the delegates on the DEL paper list. The letter and sign-up form for the option to register electronically was mailed to all branches in November. The sign-up form must be returned to my office no later than Dec. 31.

After my office has received the DEL and registered the delegates, the credentials will be mailed to the branch secretary. Included with the credentials is information on the housing process. This information includes a web address and a code specific to your branch so that you may reserve rooms for your delegates. **Branch secretaries may prefer to copy the instructions and give them to each delegate to make his or her own reservations.**

For branch secretaries or delegates who do not have internet access, NALC will include with the credential mailing a room reservation form with a fax number, along with the phone number of the housing company. Branch secretaries with no internet access may make reservations for all their delegates in this manner, or may wish to copy the forms and give them to the delegates.

Again, branch secretaries are reminded that no housing information will be included in the mailing of the delegate eligibility lists around Feb. 1. That information will be provided when NALC Headquarters mails you the credentials. Branches and individuals are not to contact hotels directly and must wait until credentials and NALC housing instructions are received.

## Dues for 2022

**There will be a biweekly dues increase for 2022 due to the increases in letter carrier wages negotiated in the 2019-2023 collective bargaining agreement—including the November 2019, November 2020 and November 2021 general wage increases, as well as the January 2020, July 2020, January 2021 and July 2021 COLAs.**

The dues change will take place in Pay Period 1 of 2022 (Dec. 18, 2021 through Dec. 31, 2021) and will be reflected beginning with the Jan. 7, 2022, paycheck. As a result, the dues increase will show in the branch dues deposits beginning Jan. 14, 2022.

The minimum dues structure set forth in Article 7, Section 2 (a) of the *NALC Constitution* is the equivalent of two hours base pay for an NALC Step D letter carrier in the consolidated career city carrier grade level (Table One) per month. Since dues are deducted biweekly, this amount will be \$28.85 for 2022. National retains one-third of this amount, \$9.60, and remits the other two-thirds to the local branches (with some withheld for state associations and remitted by NALC Headquarters to the state associations monthly).

Some branches may have dues that are higher than the minimum dues structure. Also, branches may increase local dues during the year.