

Things change quickly in Washington —letter carriers must stay engaged



**Brian L.
Renfroe**

In the weeks since collective bargaining officially opened, NALC's bargaining team has been busy discussing proposals with our counterparts at the Postal Service. NALC has now presented and discussed almost five dozen proposals to make improvements to the National Agreement on a multitude of topics to improve the wages, hours, and working conditions of letter carriers. Each change NALC has put forward came from the bargaining subcommittees, made up of Executive Council members and letter carrier staff at Headquarters. These subcommittees

formed their proposals based on passed national convention resolutions, feedback from NALC's first ever Rank-and-File Bargaining Committees, ideas from branch and state leaders at the 2025 national rap session, and results from an active member survey conducted earlier this year. Each piece of feedback and information was instrumental as the subcommittees formed their bargaining proposals.

On the economic side, we've consistently worked with our counterparts to make clear our economic priorities. As negotiations continue, we will continue to prioritize goals that are most important to our members based on the feedback we've received.

While we've been busy at the bargaining table, last month we were fortunate to welcome nine outstanding letter carriers to Washington, DC, for our annual Heroes of the Year Awards. As always, it was a fantastic event that showcased the very best of what letter carriers do. So often, the public service we provide goes beyond delivering mail, and that's what these stories show. More about their amazing and courageous stories are available on page 16. As you read them, I hope you'll feel the same sense of pride in how our members show up for our communities in countless ways every single day.

These moving stories are just a few examples of what sets letter carriers apart. The Postal Service is the only delivery company with a universal network. Letter car-

riers go to every home and business in the country, so we're often there and are the first to notice something is wrong. That's why the network, and the critical service we provide, must be protected.

As this magazine was going to print, the Senate had spent two weeks debating the SAVE America Act, a voter suppression bill that passed the House in February. Meanwhile, Congress continues to struggle to agree on much of anything. As this issue was going to press, significant portions of the Department of Homeland Security haven't been funded since mid-February. While lawmakers continue a standoff over ICE agents in communities, Transportation Security Administration agents—hardworking union federal employees—haven't been paid. Congress's priorities and dysfunction remind us that our democracy is fragile, but it's something that NALC will always fight to save.

“In today's world, things are happening fast and can change on a dime. I encourage every letter carrier to stay informed and engaged on the issues most important to us.”

In today's world, things are happening fast and can change on a dime. I encourage every letter carrier to stay informed and engaged on the issues most important to us. Attend your branch meetings, read this magazine, check nalc.org, and follow us on social media to stay involved as we continue to fight like hell for you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian L. Renfroe', written in a cursive style.