

Second group of Rank-and-File Bargaining Committees convenes

The second group of Rank-and-File Bargaining Committees convened on Jan. 12, meeting in person in the Washington, DC, area. This group of 30 letter carriers from across the country was divided into three committees: Branch Leaders, Contract Enforcers and Newer Members.

The committees underwent a similar review process to the one followed by the Executive Council and staff bargaining subcommittees.

The first group of Rank-and-File Bargaining Committees met in September 2025 and provided valuable input on potential proposals from their various perspectives.

“They came up with some of their own concepts,” NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said. “On the economic front, we had an excellent discussion with them about priorities.”

The subcommittees have used the first group of Rank-and-File Bargaining Committees’ ideas and suggestions as they form bargaining proposals related to their National Agreement articles.

This new group followed the same format and had the opportunity to share their ideas leading into the final weeks of collective-bargaining preparations. Negotiations with the Postal Service are scheduled to begin on Feb. 25.

Renfroe met with the committees ahead of their full week of work.

“The Rank-and-File Committee is a new idea for us, and it is designed to provide what I think is going to be a very useful piece of information from these members to give to those subcommittees as part of their work,” President Renfroe said.

In addition to these committees, NALC is working to make surveys available to all members prior to the start of negotiations.

“We have created more opportuni-



Branch Leaders



Contract Enforcers



Newer Members

ties than we’ve ever had before for our members to be involved and give their input on certain topics and then put all of that together as we lead up to the opening of bargaining,” Renfroe said.

NALC will continue to provide updates as the collective-bargaining preparation process progresses.

Below is a list of the second group of

Rank-and-File Bargaining Committees members.

Branch Leaders

- Jennifer Anderson—Waterloo, IA Branch 512
- Cory Champagne—Houma-Thibodaux-Lockport, LA Branch 2464



- Joe DeStefano—Hudson Valley Merged, NY Branch 137
- Mike Ellis—Northern Virginia Branch 3520
- Wayne Harlow—Greenville, SC Branch 439
- Kim Lewis—Dallas, TX Branch 132
- Renee' Maxey—Vicksburg, MS Branch 94
- Chris Reed—Kailua Kona, HI Branch 5516
- Joe Rian—Minneapolis, MN Branch 9
- Eric Salazar—Grand Junction, CO Branch 913

- Dave Norton—Portland, OR Branch 82
- Patrice O'Banner—South Suburban Merged, IL Branch 4016
- Jim Rangel—Rock Island, IL Branch 292
- Chris Williams—Northern Kentucky Branch 374

Newer Members

- Desiray Anderson—Southern Delaware Branch 906
- Jacinta Fair—Colorado Springs, CO Branch 204
- Daniel Gordon—Warwick, RI Branch 3166
- Jade McBride—Olympia, WA Branch 351
- Brett Meissinger—Colby, KS Branch 4635
- Josiah Morse—Maine Merged Branch 92
- Kiara O'Donnell—Saint Paul, MN Branch 28
- Chris Podunajec—Paducah, KY Branch 383
- Ryan Raeke—Wichita Falls, TX Branch 1227
- Diana Sanchez—Garden Grove, CA Branch 1100

Contract Enforcers

- Mike Ely—Stamford, CT Branch 60
- Robert Farrell—Erie, PA Branch 284
- Wayne Green Jr.—Winston-Salem, NC Branch 461
- Corey Isham—Cincinnati, OH Branch 43
- April Litty—South Jersey, NJ Branch 908
- Monique Mate—Rochester, NY Branch 210

NALC mourns former general counsel

America's letter carriers lost a great ally and friend last month with the death of Bruce Simon, the NALC's chief attorney and general counsel from 1979 to 2022. Simon died on Jan. 11 at the age of 92.

"Bruce Simon was an invaluable resource to Presidents Sombrotto, Young and Rolando in collective bargaining and legal strategy," NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said. "He was a champion for letter carriers and working people. NALC would not be where it is today without the guidance he offered."

Simon was a graduate of Harvard Law School and in 1966 became the third partner of Cohen, Weiss and Simon, where he worked for decades to turn the New York firm into the nation's premier labor law firm representing dozens of local and national unions, including NALC.

Simon served as general counsel for three NALC presidents: Vincent R. Sombrotto, William H. Young and Fredric V. Rolando. Over their terms, he advised the union's leadership through 11 rounds of collective bar-

gaining with the U.S. Postal Service. He also served as NALC's advocate arbitrator on the Kerr, Mittenenthal, Valtin, Stark, Fleischli and Das interest arbitration panels. He and his team of lawyers also zealously fought for America's letter carriers in dozens of national and regional arbitrations and in a wide range of lawsuits, including litigation to enforce the Fair Labor Standards Act for letter carriers and other postal employees, and to protect the political free speech rights of letter carriers against unfair applications of the Hatch Act.

President Emeritus Rolando said, "We will cherish his memory."

President Emeritus Young called Simon "a great fighter for letter carriers and a dear friend," and added, "My condolences to Bruce's wife, Arlene, and to his children and grandchildren."

A tribute to Simon is at cwsny.com/in-memoriam-bruce-h-simon. **PR**



Correction: The calendar card published in the December issue of *The Postal Record* mistakenly contained 26 pay periods for 2026 rather than 27, as was confirmed by the Postal Service in *Postal Bulletin* 22692. The corrected pay period chart is below.

2026 Pay Period Inclusive Dates

Pay Period	Begins	Ends	Pay Date	Holiday
1	12/13/25	12/26/25	1/2/26	12/25 (Thurs)
2	12/27	1/9	1/16	1/1 (Thurs)
3	1/10	1/23	1/30	1/19 (Mon)
4	1/24	2/6	2/13	
5	2/7	2/20	2/27	2/16 (Mon)
6	2/21	3/6	3/13	
7	3/7	3/20	3/27	
8	3/21	4/3	4/10	
9	4/4	4/17	4/24	
10	4/18	5/1	5/8	
11	5/2	5/15	5/22	
12	5/16	5/29	6/5	5/25 (Mon)
13	5/30	6/12	6/19	
14	6/13	6/26	7/3	6/19 (Fri)
15	6/27	7/10	7/17	7/4 (Sat)
16	7/11	7/24	7/31	
17	7/25	8/7	8/14	
18	8/8	8/21	8/28	
19	8/22	9/4	9/11	
20	9/5	9/18	9/25	9/7 (Mon)
21	9/19	10/2	10/9	
22	10/3	10/16	10/23	10/12 (Mon)
23	10/17	10/30	11/6	
24	10/31	11/13	11/20	11/11 (Wed)
25	11/14	11/27	12/4	11/26 (Thurs)
26	11/28	12/11	12/18	
27	12/12	12/25	12/31	12/25 (Fri)

Note: The 2026 leave year begins Jan. 10, 2026, and ends Jan. 8, 2027.