Memorandum of Understanding

Between Branch 84, National Association of Letter Carriers and The United States Postal Service, Duquesne Post Office

ITEM 1 – "ADDITIONAL OR LONGER WASH-UP PERIODS"

Article 8, Section 9 of the National Agreement provides reasonable wash-up time for a letter carrier who performs dirty work. It is the position of the United States Postal Service that any letter carrier shall be granted such time as is reasonable and necessary for washing up after performing dirty work or incident to personal needs as currently established.

ITEM 2 – "THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGULAR WORK WEEK OF FIVE DAYS WITH EITHER FIXED OR ROTATING DAYS OFF"

The regular work week will be five days with a rotating day off.

ITEM 3 – "GUIDELINES FOR CURTAILMENT OR TERMINATION OF POSTAL OPERATIONS TO CONFORM TO ORDERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OR AS LOCAL CONDITIONS WARRANT BECAUSE OF EMERGENCY CONDITIONS"

When due to "Acts of God", extreme emergencies, or orders of local authorities, it becomes necessary to curtail, or terminate postal operations, the Postmaster, or his/her designee, will inform the President of Branch 84, NALC, of the action to be taken and the effect on the union members.

Such information will be disseminated swiftly and uniformly by whatever means available; i.e., telephone, radio, television, etc. If an extreme emergency, as stated in this item, would occur during the hours the carriers would be on duty, the supervisor, customer services support, shall take the necessary precautions to insure that all carrier work locations are notified.

The President of Branch 84, NALC, will be notified of the implementation of this item whenever there is an Act of God such as, but not limited to, severe accumulation of snow, rain, ice, i.e., above the norm of the delivery area, management may review carrier operations in the respective area/areas affected. This proposal would also include any state of emergency, local, state, or national.

ITEM 4 - "FORMULATION OF LOCAL LEAVE PROGRAM"

- A. Number of slots in non-choice period. Management shall allow at least one (1) carrier off each week during the non-choice vacation period.
- **B.** Beginning dates for choice and non-choice selections. Choice vacation period selections shall start the first full week in January and continue until all selections are complete. Upon completion of the choice vacation selection process; non-choice vacation period selections will being and will continue until all selections are complete
- C. Method of selection. All letter carriers will have three (3) of his/her working days to make his/her selection. The non-choice vacation selection process shall be the same as the choice vacation selection process. If any letter carriers desires a vacation selection of any of the weeks during the vacation selection process it shall be granted on a first come, first served basis. Letter carriers, by seniority, shall indicate his/her selection for the choice vacation period on a list posted on the bulletin board. The same shall apply to non-choice selections. After Career Carriers have made their selections City Carrier Assistants may select one full week during the choice or non-choice period, from remaining slots, leave will be granted contingent upon the City Carrier Assistant having sufficient leave balance when the leave is taken.
- **D.** Leave cancellation policy. Letter carriers are permitted to cancel all of, or any part of their leave selections. Carrier shall notify management of his/her cancellation in writing as far in advance as possible, no later than two (2) service days prior. All cancellations of vacation selections shall be posted within seven days of management being notified of the cancellation. Letter carriers junior to the letter carrier canceling his/her leave shall have first choice for that period on a seniority basis.
- **E.** All vacations selected by carrier craft employees must be honored for full service week segments; i.e., no carrier will be permitted to tie up a vacation slot by only using a portion thereof.

- **F.** Vacation call-in no carrier will be called in to work while on annual leave.
- G. There shall be no exchanging of leave unless management, Union and employee mutually agree.

ITEM 5 - "THE DURATION OF THE CHOICE VACATION PERIOD"

The choice vacation period shall begin the week of May 15th and continue through and end the week of September 15th.

ITEM 6 – "THE DETERMINATION OF THE BEGINNING DATE OF AN EMPLOYEE'S VACATION PERIOD"

Vacations shall begin on Monday and carrier will return to work on Monday.

ITEM 7 – "WHETHER EMPLOYEES AT THEIR OPTION MAY REQUEST TWO SELECTIONS DURING THE CHOICE VACATION PERIOD IN UNITS OF EITHER 5 OR 10 DAYS"

Each letter carrier will be granted two (2) selections at his or her option during the choice vacation period as outlined in Article 10, Section 3 of the National Agreement.

ITEM 8 – "WHETHER JURY DUTY AND ATTENDANCE AT NATIONAL OR STATE CONVENTIONS SHALL BE CHARGED TO THE CHOICE VACATION PERIOD"

A. Jury duty will not be charged to the choice vacation period. Management, to the extent possible, will reschedule members of the regular work force who are forced to give up a chosen choice/non-choice vacation period for jury duty to a comparable period as close to the original choice as possible.

B. Attendance at union conventions shall be charged as a choice vacation selection. At the beginning of each year when the convention week has been determined, the union will submit a list of official delegates to the Supervisor, Customer Services Support. Sufficient slots for eligible delegates shall be withheld for the appropriate week. If the number of slots is insufficient in a section to permit the number of delegates of that section to attend the convention, then the Supervisor, Customer Service Support will contact the President, Branch 84 to discuss a means of obtaining leave for the necessary delegates."

ITEM 9 – "DETERMINATION OF THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES WHO SHALL RECEIVE LEAVE EACH WEEK DURING THE CHOICE VACATION PERIOD"

Management shall allow at least one (1) carrier off each week during the choice vacation period.

ITEM 10 – "THE ISSUANCE OF OFFICIAL NOTICES TO EACH EMPLOYEE OF THE VACATION SCHEDULED APPROVED FOR HIM/HER"

After the choice and non-choice vacation rosters have been completed, a copy will be posted in a prominent place (Union bulletin board) and a copy will be provided to the Shop Steward.

ITEM 11 – "DETERMINATION OF THE DATE AND MEANS OF NOTIFYING EMPLOYEES OF THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW LEAVE YEAR"

Prior to the start of December each year, management will notify all carrier craft employees and post in a prominent place the beginning date of the new leave year.

ITEM 12 – "THE PROCEDURES FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR ANNUAL LEAVE DURING OTHER THAN CHOICE VACATION PERIOD"

Letter carriers requesting incidental annual leave shall whenever possible submit Form 3971 in advance. Request for incidental annual leave may be made up to thirty (30) days in advance. Station supervisors will indicate on the Form 3971 the date and time it was submitted. Management will reply within forty-eight (48) hours following submission of Form 3971. Daily leave shall be granted on a seniority basis, while leave in advance shall be granted on a first come first served basis.

Upon completion of the choice vacation selection process non-choice vacation period selections will begin and will continue until all selections are complete. The non-choice vacation selection process shall be the same as the choice vacation selection process.

ITEM 13 - "THE METHOD OF SELECTING EMPLOYEES TO WORK ON A HOLIDAY"

A. After management has determined the number of carriers needed for holiday or designated holiday work, a schedule shall be posted as of the Tuesday preceding the service week in which the holiday falls, using the following priority order in selecting the employees needed.

- 1. Part time flexible carriers.
- 2. Full time regulars who volunteer to work on their holiday or day designated as a holiday by seniority.
- 3. City Carriers Assistants
- 4. Full time regulars who volunteer to work on their non-scheduled day by seniority.
- 5. Full time regulars who did not volunteer on what would otherwise be their non-scheduled day by inverse seniority.
 - 6. All other non-volunteer full time regulars by inverse seniority.
- If, after the posting period, a need develops for additional or replacement employees, employees shall be selected to the same order as above..
- B. Management will maintain a roster of those employees who were scheduled to work on a holiday or designated holiday regardless of whether the employees were volunteers or non-volunteers.
- C. The overtime hours worked by those employees utilized voluntarily or involuntarily on a holiday are not to be credited on the overtime desired list.

ITEM 14 – "WHETHER OVERTIME LISTS IN ARTICLE 8 SHALL BE BY SECTION AND/OR TOUR"

Overtime desired lists will be by sections as defined in Item 18 of this memorandum of understanding.

Overtime Desired List. All regular carriers will have the opportunity to sign an overtime desired list during the two week period prior to the beginning of each calendar quarter (Jan.-Mar., Apr.-June, July-Sept., Oct.-Dec.). Carriers desiring to work overtime should sign as either a 10-hour, 12-hour or work assignment volunteer.

The Overtime desired list shall be prominently displayed and updated with the overtime hours worked by the volunteers. Any volunteers who are personally contacted to work overtime and are subsequently excused will be credited on the overtime desired lists with the entire opportunity offered.

The overtime desired list will be reviewed monthly by the Postmaster and the Shop Steward to ensure equitable opportunities and hours.

When management options to split a route, carriers already scheduled that day and on the overtime desired list will be selected on a rotating basis to carry the cuts in accordance with Article 8 of the National Agreement. This overtime is credited on the overtime desired list.

ITEM 15 – "THE NUMBER OF LIGHT DUTY ASSIGNMENTS WITHIN EACH CRAFT OR OCCUPATIONAL GROUP TO BE RESERVED FOR TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT LIGHT DUTY ASSIGNMENTS"

The number of temporary light duty assignments shall be reserved for the carrier craft based on the maximum number of carriers that have been assigned in the past consistent with good business practices, and under the conditions stipulated in Article 13, section C-3 of the National Agreement.

ITEM 16 – "THE METHOD TO BE USED IN RESERVING LIGHT DUTY ASSIGNMENTS SO THAT NO REGULARLY ASSIGNED MEMBERS OF THE REGULAR WORK FORCE WILL BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED"

A. The United States Postal Service and the Union's recognizing their responsibility to aid and assist deserving full time regulars or part time flexible employees, who through illness or injury are unable to perform their regular assigned duties will through labor/management meetings as the need arises determine the method in reserving light duty assignments so that no regular assigned member of the regular work force will be adversely affected.

B. The light duty employee's tour, hours, work location and basic work week shall be those of the light duty assignment and the needs of the service whether or not the same as for the employees' previous duty assignment.

ITEM 17 – "THE IDENTIFICATION OF ASSIGNMENTS THAT ARE TO BE CONSIDERED LIGHT DUTY WITHIN EACH CRAFT REPRESENTED IN THE OFFICES"

- A. Generally light duty assignments as per Article 13 of the National Agreement shall be determined by the procedure stated in Item 16 of this Memorandum.
 - B. The parties agree that no employee should perform work beyond the medical restriction provided.

ITEM 18 – "THE IDENTIFICATION OF ASSIGNMENTS COMPRISING A SECTION WHEN IT IS PROPOSED TO REASSIGN WITHIN AN INSTALLATION EMPLOYEES EXCESS TO THE NEEDS OF A SECTION"

For the purposes of this Item, the Duquesne Post Office will be considered an Installation.

ITEM 19 - "THE ASSIGNMENT OF EMPLOYEE PARKING SPACES"

After the employer determines the parking needs of the service (government vehicles, customers, supervisors) the carrier craft allotment of the remaining parking spaces shall be on a percentage equal to the percentage of carrier craft employees assigned to this work location. Such percentage shall be rounded off to the nearest whole number. Carrier craft employee parking spaces will be allotted by seniority within the work location. Enforcement of this program by seniority will be an internal function of the Union through the shop steward.

ITEM 20 - "THE DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER ANNUAL LEAVE TO ATTEND UNION ACTIVITIES REQUESTED PRIOR TO DETERMINATION OF THE CHOICE SCHEDULE IS TO BE PART OF THE TOTAL CHOICE VACATION PLAN"

Annual leave to attend union activities (other than National Conventions) requested prior to the determination of the choice vacation schedule will not be part of the total choice vacation schedule.

ITEM 21 – "THOSE OTHER ITEMS WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO LOCAL NEGOTIATIONS AS PROVIDED IN THE CRAFT PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL AGREEMENT" and ITEM 22 – "LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION RELATING TO SENIORITY, REASSIGNMENT AND POSTING"

- A. Posting and Bidding. A notice inviting bids for letter carrier craft assignments and for such other assignments to which a letter carrier is entitled to bid shall be posted on the official bulletin board for ten (10) days. Copies of the notice shall be given to the local union. Letter carriers shall make their bids in accordance with Article 41.1 of the National Agreement. At each work location, management shall post all temporarily vacant full time craft duty assignments of anticipated duration of five (5) days or more. Full time reserve, unassigned regular, part time flexible and city carrier assistant letter carriers may indicate their preference for such assignments at a section.
- **B. Bumping.** When a full-time regular on the overtime desired list is called in to work his non-scheduled day, he/she shall work his/her bid assignment only if the CC-2 carrier can move to another route on that set of floats. If another route on the swing is not available, the ODL carrier coming in on his/her off day will work the open route.
- C. Article 41.3.O. When a letter carrier route or full-time duty assignment, other than the letter carrier route(s) or full-time duty assignment(s) of the junior employee(s), is abolished at a delivery unit as a result of, but not limited to, route adjustments, highway, housing projects, all routes and full-time duty assignments at that unit held by letter carriers who are junior to the carrier(s) whose route(s) or full-time duty assignment(s) was abolished shall be posted for bid in accordance with the posting procedures in this Article.
- **D. Time Change.** If the starting time of a route changes by more than one hour, it will not be posted for bid.

This Memorandum of Understanding between the United States Postal Service and Branch 84 of the National Association of Letter Carriers, pursuant to the Local Implementation Provisions of the National Contract, will be effective as of the date signed below and will remain in force for the life of the current National Agreement.

For the United States Postal Service

For Branch 84, NALC

David J. Chludzinski

Labor Relations, Western PA District

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Date

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Branch 84, NALC

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