



MEMO To The Branch 2184 Leadership Council, Sept. 13, 2022

Walt McGregory
Jackie McGregory
Darryl Clay
Mel MacDonald
Cathy Tondreau
Jim Powell
Phil Ashford
Tracy Mitchell
Gloria Warthen
Felicia Davis
Leonard Zawisa
Dave Reise
Erik Venzke
Joe Golonka
Kris Shaw
Mark Owen
Scott Russell
Ryan Zyngier
Bryon Hendricks
Jillian Hudgins
Symone Coleman
Yvonne Jackson
Karl Tamburro
Damon Green
Shaun Fowlkes
Marwan Ghotemi
Chanel Harrison
Lillian Bogosian
Scherrie Lacey
Scherkeira Wells
Scott Watts
Valerie Watkins
Elizabeth Bays
Tamara Bosman
Kristie Nelson
Diego Forshaw
Otis Barney
Keith Benedict
Victor Siemiesz
William Douglas
Jeffrey Webb
Nakia Whitfield
Katrina Jones
Ananias Epps
Ramon Robinson
Denise Viola
Paul Bordine
Mike Tredway
Danita Hill

This month's Leadership Council Memo begins with an administrative update concerning Branch 2184 matters. Our next membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 5 at 7:30 p.m. This meeting will be conducted online by use of WebEx. To participate, contact Branch Executive Vice President Jackie McGregory at (313) 412-0028, or ravier7498@gmail.com. Provide your name, the office you work at or retired from, and the email address you want to use for the WebEx link to log in. The link will be sent at least two days prior to the meeting. The Branch website (NALC2184.org) also has a telephone number and access code if you want to participate in the meeting telephonically.

Our convention delegates should be aware that the cycle of required membership meeting attendance for the purposes of funding requirements for next year's Michigan State Association of Letter Carriers convention is currently in progress. To be eligible for any convention funding, a delegate must attend at least 7 of the previous 10 regular membership meetings immediately prior to the convention, per Article XII, section 5(c) of our Branch Bylaws.

There will be a steward meeting on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will also be conducted online by use of WebEx. Stewards should also be aware that attendance and participation in the Region 6 Training conducted by National Business Agent David Mudd's office will count as credit for October steward meeting participation. Finally, the October executive board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 24 at 7:30 p.m. This is a week sooner than usual and is due to the occurrence of Halloween on Monday, October 31.

Despite sending a somewhat smaller delegation (23 delegates) to the NALC's 72nd Biennial Convention than was the case with other recent union National conventions, Branch 2184 actively participated in the proceedings and we left Chicago with extensive information and updates to assist our representation of letter carriers all areas of the job. Convention delegates will be utilizing our meetings and our publication to provide reports during the next few months about convention workshops they attended.

The NALC's 73rd biennial convention is scheduled to take place in Boston, Massachusetts on August 5 – 9, 2024. **Delegates attending this convention must be nominated at the time of our next nominations process for Branch officers, stewards, and delegates for the next (2024-2026) term of office.** This will take place at the regular membership meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 4, 2023. An election of convention delegates will occur only if the number of delegates nominated exceeds the number allotted to Branch 2184.

Also at the recent National convention, longtime NALC President Frederic Rolando announced that he would not be seeking another term. Nominations were taken for all National officer positions and an election will take place for those positions which were contested. **All active and retired NALC members**

will be receiving a mail ballot for this election, and everyone is encouraged to participate.

Of additional note, our NALC Region 6 (Kentucky-Indiana-Michigan) National Business Agent David Mudd was unopposed for re-election and thus he will serve a four-year term of office as our NBA. Congratulations to David, and we in Branch 2184 look forward to continuing our long-established excellent working relationship with the NALC Region 6 office.

Plymouth steward and Formal Step A designee Tamara Bosman has been selected by the NALC National office to attend Dispute Resolution Process (DRP)/Dispute Resolution Team (DRT) Step B training, taking place from September 26-30 at the Bolger Center in Potomac, Maryland. Congratulations to Tamara! Her selection is a testament to her work and to Branch 2184's stellar Contract enforcement reputation. Taylor steward and Formal Step A designee Keith Benedict has also applied for DRT Step B training, and we look forward to his future selection.

As noted above, our NALC National Business Agent David Mudd and his two Regional Administrative Assistants Kyle Inosencio and Ronnie Roush will be conducting the annual Region 6 (K.I.M. Region) training next month. This will take place in Covington, Kentucky at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center on October 8 through October 10, the Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day holiday weekend. Branch 2184 will be well represented at this valuable annual event as we will be sending 26 attendees. Registration and lodging arrangements at the Marriott Hotel RiverCenter in Covington have been made by the Branch for our attendees.

For those that have not been there, Covington is directly across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, Ohio. Travel time by car from the Branch 2184 office to Covington is about 4 hours, and is 255 miles from the Branch 2184 office. Although classes will be conducted on both Saturday and Sunday, October 8 and 9, the full slate of 14 class offerings is available on Sunday and thus our attendees are only required to be there on Sunday and Monday, October 9 and 10.

Branch 2184 injury compensation specialist Erik Venzke has requested that every active Branch 2184 officer and steward sign up for an ECOMP account, and to please do so ASAP. ECOMP (Employees' Compensation Operations and Management Portal) is available to every active USPS employee, and you do NOT need to have a current or past on the job injury claim to do so. In this manner, you will be familiar with the ECOMP portal and sign-up process and thus can more readily assist our members with doing so. Erik will speak more about this subject at the September steward meetings.

The Postal Service in many Branch 2184 offices as well as elsewhere often attempts to impose a "30-day rule" for medical updates with letter carriers have limited or light duty restrictions on their work due to on or off the job injuries or illnesses. Management also attempts to apply this policy in situations where a carrier has an 8-hour daily or 40-hour weekly work restriction. However, the basis for this is largely due to a misconception and it is even mythical in nature. NALC Regional Workers Compensation Assistant David Miller has composed a response to the "30-day" update requirement, which appears as an additional document accompanying this Leadership Council memo. Branch 2184 contract enforcers should read and then keep this information handy for use in grievances if and when necessary.

Management in one of our offices deleted a carrier's previously approved "no lunch" because the carrier went a few minutes into overtime. However, they had no contractual basis or other authority to do this. Stewards, always keep in mind that a carrier's request for a "no lunch" and its approval have nothing whatsoever to do with whether they work overtime on the day of the request. **Approval of an employee's "no lunch" is NOT conditional on the employee working only 8 hours on a given workday.** Any claims by management to the contrary should be immediately challenged through the grievance procedure.