



# Tampa Letter Carrier

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2017

## Around The Horn from The President's Desk

Brothers and Sisters, I traveled to the National RAP Session in Atlantic City, New Jersey on June 14 and 15 for the specifics on the new Tentative 40-month National Contract Agreement. Unfortunately due to deadlines, our July newsletter was already printed and mailed out upon my return. **The National Executive Council unanimously recommended ratification of this contract. Locally the Florida Branch Presidents I traveled with to the RAP Session, like myself, also are in agreement to ratify the new contract.** All eligible active NALC members should have received their vote-by-mail ratification ballots, an information sheet, and the entire agreement. Hopefully all of you took the time to educate yourselves and mail in the ballot to ratify.

On May 12, 2017, the NALC announced there was a tentative agreement reached between the National Association of Letter Carriers and the United States Postal Service. After 15 long months of negotiations, the 40-month tentative agreement addresses much more than

just COLAs and general wage increases. Upgrades for the CCAs with 6 paid holidays, step increases for served TE time, increasing uniform allowances, and retroactive pay for recently retired letter carriers, to name a few.

**National President Fred Rolando was very pleased with the outcome of the lengthy contract negotiations.** President Rolando wanted to thank all our members for their patience and solidarity during the long bargaining process. *The strength and unity of our union has always been our most important asset in collective bargaining. The tentative agreement includes provisions rewarding all letter carriers for their contributions to the Postal Service's extraordinary comeback following the Great Recession; narrowing the compensation gap between city carrier assistants (CCAs) and career letter carriers; creating a formal mechanism to address the problems that have undermined the workplace culture of the Postal Service for much of its history.*

### Tentative Contract Highlights

**Term of Agreement:**  
May 21, 2016

through September 20, 2019

### Wage Increases:

All city letter carriers (career and non-career) will receive the following wage increases:

- Effective Nov. 26, 2016 – 1.2% general increase (retroactive).
- Effective Nov. 25, 2017 – 1.3% general increase.
- Effective Nov. 24, 2018 – All Grade 1 letter carriers will be upgraded to Grade 2 (an average 2.1% wage increase). All carrier technicians will also receive a 2.1% wage increase. **If the contract is ratified, the first year (2016) increase will be implemented retroactively as soon as possible.**

### Career Carriers –Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs)

Cost-of-living adjustments are an important protection against future inflation and remain an important



Tony Diaz  
President

Branch 599  
serving  
Brandon  
Plant City  
Sun City  
Tampa

### Branch 599 Meeting

Thursday  
August 10  
7:30 PM

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**Branch 599 Office**

3003 W Cypress Street  
Tampa FL 33609-1617  
813.875.0599  
Fax 813.870.0599  
www.nalc599.com

Tony Diaz  
President  
tony\_diaz599@yahoo.com

*Office Hours*  
Monday – Friday  
7:30 AM – 4 PM

Rodna Kimelman Kirk  
Office Secretary  
nalc599@verizon.net

**Tampa Letter Carrier**

Tony Diaz  
Publisher

Phyllis R. Thomas  
Editor  
editor@nalc599.com

Branch 599 Office  
813.875.0599

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Please submit any and all articles to be published in the *Tampa Letter Carrier* to the Editor via email at editor@nalc599.com and also to the Branch Office at nalc599@verizon.net no later than the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month in order for us to meet our time limits to the publisher.

# Officers

Position	Officer	Phone	Email
<b>President</b>	Tony Diaz	813.875.0599 cell 813.598.9635	tony_diaz599@yahoo.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Brian Obst	727.458.0679	
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Michael Brink	813.875.0599	
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Alan Peacock	813.892.9378	apecock.nalc@verizon.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Gebo	813.503.1256	jjg7d7@aol.com
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	J.C. Howard	813.310.0689	
<b>MBA/NSBA</b>	Al Guice	813.465.9754	
<b>Health Benefit Rep.</b>	Detlev Aepfel	813.242.4507	
<b>Director of Retirees</b>	Alan Robinson	813.843.9762	retirees@nalc599.com
<b>Trustees</b>	Lori McMillion, Ch.	813.263.7101	
	José Oliva	813.299.8442	
	Jim Good	813.417.8877	jgood.nalc@tampabay.rr.com
<b>Labor Management</b>	Nick Cullaro	813.541.8159	
	Warren Sumlin	813.486.7612	
<b>Presidents Emeritus</b>	Garland Tickle • Orbe Andux Donald Thomas • Michael Anderson James Good • Alan Peacock		

# Shop Stewards

Station	ZIP	Steward	Station No.	Steward's No.
Tampa Stations/Branches		Chief Steward, Brian Obst		727.458.0679
Brandon	33510/11	Terry Franklin Luis Cruz	813.661.1636	813.758.3061 813.431.3223
Carrollwood	33618	Freddie Nimphius	813.961.2962	813.263.7895
Commerce	33602	Reuben Perez	813.242.4507	813.508.7094
Forest Hills	33612	Ed Humphries	813.935.2954	813.787.3914
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Nick Cullaro	813.935.2954	813.541.8159
Hilldale	33614	Darrick Smith	813.879.4309	813.446.5555
Hilldale Annex	33634	Varick Reeder	813.879.4309	315.491.6234
Interbay/Port Tampa	33611/16	Jackie Allen	813.831.2034	813.508.1440
Interbay/Peninsula	33629	Clement Cheung	813.831.2034	813.758.5910
Palm River Annex	33619	Pam Benton	813.663.0048	813.475.0753
Plant City	33564	Todd Soular	813.719.6793	508.615.6517
Produce	33610	Elvin Rodriguez	813.239.4084	646.346.3288
Ruskin/Sun City Ctr	33570	Patrick Wimberly	813.634.1403	813.245.0847
Seminole Heights	33603	Walt Rhoades	813.237.4569	813.389.1708
Sulphur Springs	33604	Steve Hall	813.237.4569	813.494.4669
TCA/Hyde Park	33606	Mike Williams	813.873.7189	813.541.3092
TCA/Peninsula	33609	Andre Stafford	813.873.7189	813.600.0638
TCA/West Tampa	33607	Michael Smith	813.873.7189	813.326.0717
Temple Terrace	33617	Warren Sumlin	813.988.0152	813.486.7612
Town 'N Country	33615/35	Brian Obst	813.884.0973	727.458.0679
Ybor City	33605	Andre Hinton	813.242.4507	931.980.5169

# Around The Horn from The President's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

component of the National Agreement. Career letter carriers will receive seven COLAs. Wage rates will be increased by one cent per hour for each 0.4 point increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban and Clerical Workers (CPI-W 1982-84 base). The COLAs will be applied to the pay tables using the practice established in the 2011-2016 National Agreement. July 2014 has been set as the *base month*. The seven COLAs are payable as follows:

- The first COLA will be \$21 annually, effective September 3, 2016, paid retroactively.
- The second COLA will be \$333 annually, effective March 4, 2017, paid retroactively.
- The third COLA will be effective in September 2017.
- The fourth COLA will be effective in March 2018.
- The fifth COLA will be effective in September 2018.
- The sixth COLA will be effective in March 2019.
- The seventh COLA will be effective in September 2019.

## City Carrier Assistants (CCAs)

In lieu of COLAs, city carrier assistants will receive an additional 1% increase on the effective dates of the three general increases, for a total of **2.2%** in November 2016 (**paid retroactively**), **2.3%** in November 2017 and **1% plus the upgrade** in November 2018. Additionally, **retroactive** to November 26, 2016 the CCA pay scale will include two step increases, one at 12 weeks of service and the second after an additional 40 weeks. Each step increase is worth an additional 50 cents per hour. These step increases will be paid retroactively based on the length of service a CCA had on November 26, 2016. CCAs who achieved 12 or 52 weeks of service after November 26, 2016, but before the ratification date of the

agreement will also be paid **retroactively** at the appropriate rate.

The **2.2%** general wage increase and the addition of two step increases in Table 3, all of which are payable **retroactive** to November 2016, will result in an **8.4%** wage increase over their current rate of pay for CCAs with a year of service. CCAs who have been converted to career status after November 26, 2016 would also receive any retroactive pay they are owed for their time spent as CCAs as well as career carriers.

## MOU Re: Step Credit for Former transitional Employees

Eligible former transitional employees will be advanced in Table 2 of the letter carrier pay scale based on their length of service as a TE after September 29, 2007. This advancement will be effective on May 26, 2018, for eligible employees who have been converted to career status by that date or upon conversion for those converted thereafter. Each step gained is worth 2.75% of Step O (including projected COLAs, this is an average of \$1,720 annually). This advancement will also shorten the length of time to top step by 46 weeks for each step gained. Eligible TEs will receive up to four steps of credit as follows: Length of creditable TE service.

- 2 years but less than 3 years – 1 Additional Step
- 3 years but less than 4 years – 2 Additional Steps
- 4 years but less than 5 years – 3 Additional Steps
- 5 or more years – 4 Additional Steps

## MOU Re: Conversion of CCAs with Creditable TE Service

Pending ratification of the agreement, any current CCAs who were TEs after September 29, 2007 will be placed in the Table 2 step, which is higher than their CCA rate of pay, upon conversion to career.

Additionally, any career employees with creditable TE service after September 29, 2007, who are in Table 2 Step A will be placed in Step B. These placements will not change the length of time to reach Step O but will ensure that the time is spent at a higher rate of pay. These placements will take place prior to any step credit described above.

## Retroactive Payments

All career and non-career letter carriers will receive retroactive payment for all time spent in a pay status that took place on or after the effective date of a wage increase indicated above. **Career letter carriers who retired after May 21, 2016, would be eligible for both back pay for hours worked after the effective dates of retroactive pay increases and annuities will be adjusted accordingly.**

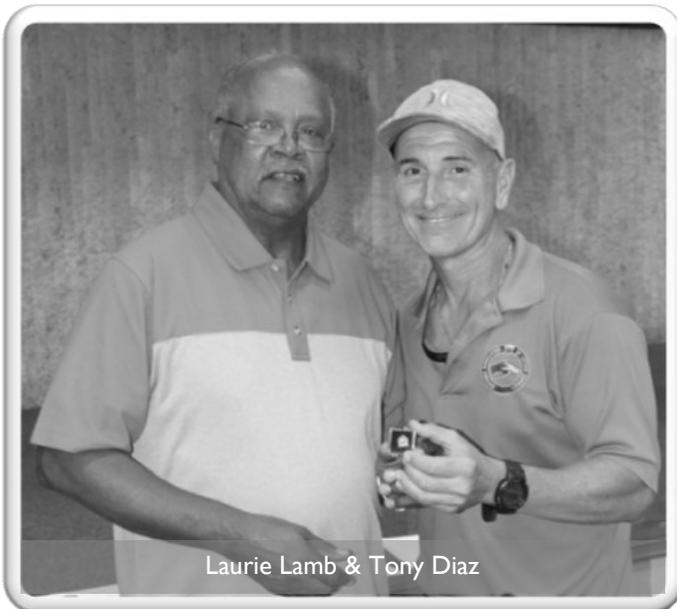
## Employee Complement

There is no change to the CCA employment caps in Article 7 of the agreement. They remain at 15% (Article 7.1.C.1), by district, of the total number of fulltime career employees in that district plus an additional 8,000 nationally (Article 7.1.C.2), the allocation of which may not exceed 8% of the total number of fulltime career city carriers in a district. The national percentage represented by the 8,000 CCAs authorized in Article 7.1.C.2 fluctuates, depending on the number of fulltime regular carriers on the rolls. It currently equates to 4.75%.

There have been additional CCAs authorized above the Article 7.1.C caps pursuant to the MOUs Re: Delivery and Collection of Competitive Products and Re: Sunday Delivery-City Carrier Assistant Staffing as explained below. The changes in the tentative agreement will not add any additional CCAs to the amount currently employed pursuant to these MOUs.

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## Congratulations, Laurie!



Laurie Lamb & Tony Diaz

Congratulations to **Laurie Lamb** [Ybor City] who received his retirement pin and gratuity from President Tony Diaz during our July Branch meeting!

## Sharing Our Members' Joys and Sorrows

Our deepest sympathy and prayerful support is extended to **Dave Tinch** [retiree] and family at the passing of his wife, Della, June 3; and to **Don** [President Emeritus] & **Phyllis** [our newsletter editor] **Thomas** and family at the suicide of their nephew, Adam Risinger, July 6.

**Take care of yourself!**  
Stay hydrated in this summer heat!

**Please remember**  
to keep our office updated with all of your contact information.

## Around the Horn from the President's Desk

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### **MOU Re: Delivery and Collection of Competitive Products**

This MOU contained in the 2011-2016 National Agreement on page 171 ensure that *the collection and delivery of such products which are to be delivered in city delivery territory, whether during or outside of normal business days and hours, shall be assigned to the city letter carrier craft.* This MOU requires the national parties to monitor whether the CCA employees authorized in Article 7, Section 1.C are sufficient and allows for additional CCAs to be jointly authorized.

### **MOU Re: Sunday Delivery – City Carrier Assistant Staffing**

(M-01826, M-01835, M-01857, an M-01877) – The first in this series of MOUs was signed in August 2013. These MOUs allowed tens of thousands or newly converted fulltime regular career letter carriers to avoid serving a probationary period pursuant

to Article 12.1.

Additionally, these MOUs established a weekly meeting between the national parties to monitor the implementation of the MOU Re: Fulltime Regular Opportunities – City Letter Carrier Craft, (see below) including the discussion of the authorization of any additional CCAs that may be necessary to adequately staff post offices during the Sunday parcel delivery test and as attrition and conversions occur in conjunction with the fulltime regular opportunities memo. This has allowed new CCAs to be hired and trained while CCAs are being converted, to avoid drops in staffing levels.

This MOU will be incorporated into the agreement with several changes. The changes include requiring discussions regarding locations in which CCAs are working consecutive days or excessive hours on a sustained basis, the expansion of Sunday parcel

delivery and maintaining the delivery of competitive products, and the continued employment of additional CCAs over the 7.I.C.1 cap, which may not exceed 3% without mutual agreement.

### **MOU Re: Part-time Regular Letter Carriers**

Caps the number of part-time regular carriers at 682 unless additional part-time regular letter carriers are authorized by mutual agreement of the national parties.

### **Appendix B Section 1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES k**

The parties may mutually agree to hire additional part-time flexible (PTF) letter carriers in addition to those expressly authorized in the 2016 National Agreement.

### **One-Time Conversion MOU Re: CCA Conversion to Career Status**

**The tentative agreement includes**

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## Around the Horn from the President's Desk

**a one-time conversion to career status for eligible CCAs. To be eligible, a CCA must have 30 months of relative standing upon the ratification date of the agreement and must be employed in an installation that has 100, 125, or 200 or more work years of employment.**

Eligible CCAs in 200 work-year offices will be converted to fulltime regular employees and those in 100 and 125 work-year offices will be converted under these provisions will not have to serve probationary periods as career employees provided they have successfully completed one 360-day term as CCAs. After one year the parties will consider another one-time conversion.

### **MOU Re: City Carrier Assistant Opportunities**

The parties have agreed to address situations where CCAs work in small offices (with less than 100 work-years of employment) with no clear path to a career opportunity. This MOU can be found in Appendix B.

The identification of 100, 125 and 200 work-year offices will take place after ratification. Since 1978, an office's work-year designation has been determined at the beginning of each National Agreement. That designation does not change until and new National Agreement is reached. The work-year designation is determined by counting the hours of bargaining-unit employees in the letter carrier, clerk, motor vehicle, maintenance and mail handler crafts.

The changes in the tentative agreement will not result in the hiring of additional CCAs above the amount currently on the rolls.

**If the contract is ratified after September 21, 2017, in accordance with the one-time CCA conversion to career status the top 4 CCAs in relative standing for Tampa would be converted to career.**

### **Health Insurance Career Letter Carriers**

In 2017, there is no change in the Postal Service's share of premium costs for career letter carriers' health insurance (76% of the weighted average FEHBP plan premium, capped at 79.25% of any given plan premium). The Postal Service's share will decrease to 74% in 2018 and 73% in 2019. The maximum employer contribution for any given plan will be 77.25% in 2018 and 76.0% in 2019. Over the course of the entire contract, the Postal Service's share for career letter carriers will remain higher than that paid by other federal agencies that participate in the Federal Employee Health Benefit Program (72% of the average premium, capped at 75% for any given plan).

The biweekly impact of these Article 21 changes will depend on which plan a carrier enrolls in but will, in any case, represent a small fraction of the biweekly pay increases provided by Article 9 of the tentative agreement. Based on the current premiums for the NALC Health Benefit Plan, each 1% shift in premiums translates into \$2.98 per pay period for self-only coverage, \$6.23 for self-plus – one coverage and \$6.72 per pay period for self-and-family coverage.

### **City Carriers Assistants**

All CCAs will remain eligible to receive a biweekly contribution of \$125 from the Postal Service to secure self-only coverage from the USPS Non-career Health Plan. CCAs who choose either self-plus-one or family coverage in the USPS Non-career Health Plan will have 65% of the total premium covered by the Postal Service. In their first year of employment and 75% of the total premium covered after their first year.

### **Uniforms**

All letter carriers will receive a 5% increase in their uniform allowance in 2017 and 2.5% annual increases in 2018 and 2019.

- May 21, 2017: \$441 plus an additional \$102 for a newly eligible carrier
- May 21, 2018: \$452 plus an additional \$104 for a newly eligible carrier
- May 21, 2019: \$464 plus an additional \$107 for a newly eligible carrier

**CCAs are entitled to the same uniform allowances provided to career carriers, and they will receive the additional amount for the newly eligible when they are converted to career status.** In addition, the parties have agreed to the MOU Re: City Carrier Assistant Uniforms Task Force. The goal of the task force is to improve the CCA uniform program by addressing administrative flaws in the current system of delivering and authorizing uniforms and paying vendors.

### **CCA Holidays**

CCAs will receive holiday leave pay for 6 holidays per year: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. CCAs in 200 work-year offices will receive 8 hours' pay, those in POSStPlan offices will receive 4 hours' and all others will receive 6 hours'.

A POSStPlan office is any post office with a designation below level 18. There are currently 51 POSStPlan offices that employ city letter carriers, including a total of 29 CCAs.

### **CCA Leave**

#### **MOU Re: City Carrier Assistant (CCA) Annual Leave**

Updated to require the local parties to include provisions in their LMOU allowing CCAs to be granted annual leave selections during the choice vacation period and for incidental leave. An ADR process will be established for impasses on this issue. This MOU can be found in Appendix B.

### **Layoff Protection**

The no-layoff clause that protects

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## Around the Horn from the President's Desk

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letter carriers after six years of service as a career employee is retained in the tentative agreement.

### Sub-contracting of Letter Carrier Work

The current prohibitions against the contracting out of city carrier work would be continued for the duration of the 2016-2019 contract.

### Joint Workplace Improvement Process

#### MOU RE: Joint Workplace Improvement Process

...The parties are committed to creating and enhancing a culture in every workplace that improves relationships between management and city letter carriers for the purposes of providing a safe, efficient work environment in which all employees are treated with dignity and respect. This memo lays out the framework of the process to achieve these goals.

### Local Implementation

The local implementation period will be October 16, 2017 through November 14, 2017.

### MOU RE: Arbitration Scheduling Procedures – (LMOU)

Ensures that LMOU impasses from an installation will be heard by the same arbitrator, with the expectation that multiple impasse items will be heard on the same date.

### Other Contractual Provisions Article 8

**Article 8.5.C – All overtime, regardless of whether such overtime was worked on a carrier's own route, will count toward equitability for overtime desired list carriers. Additionally, management will be required to post equitability totals weekly, rather than quarterly.**

### Article 12

**Article 12.3.A** – A letter carrier may be designated the successful bidder no more than six times during the

duration of the agreement unless the bid is to a higher wage level, is due to the elimination or reposting of the employee's assignment, or enables the employee to become assigned to a station closer to the employee's home.

**Article 12.5.C.4** – Prior to excessing letter carriers, management will now be required to minimize the impact on fulltime positions by reducing overtime.

### MOU Re: Article 12.1 – Probationary Period

City carrier assistants (CCAs) who are converted to career status during appointments as CCAs of directly after a five-day break in service will not serve probationary periods as a career employees, provided the employees have successfully served 360-day appointments directly follow city carrier assistant appointments. The MOU can be found in Appendix B.

### MOU Re: City Carrier Assistant Transfers

The parties agreed to establish a one-year pilot program in at least two districts to study possible approaches to facilitate the voluntary reassignment of CCAs from one installation to another. The pilot may be expanded with mutual consent.

### MOU Re: City Carrier Assistant Return from Non-Bargaining Unit Position

A CCA who leaves the bargaining unit for a non-bargaining unit position and returns to the city letter carrier craft loses any relative standing earned as a CCA. The employee must return as a CCA, unless he or she will return with the highest relative standing in the installation. In these instances, the employee may be returned to the craft as a career employee. Any exceptions to the above require mutual agreement of the national parties.

### Article 14

#### MOU RE: Smoking in Postal Vehicles

Smoking will not be permitted in postal-owned vehicles acquired or distributed after September 1, 2014.

### MOU Re: Processing of Grievances

Now applies to CCAs. This MOU states that the processing of a grievance and/or arbitration of a grievance is not barred by the separation of the grievant, whether such separation is by resignation, retirement, or death.

### Article 16

#### Appendix B Section 3.E. – Discipline Procedure

Updated to include the language from the Joint Questions and Answers 2011 USPS/NALC National Agreement (M-01870). Additionally, makes it clear that discipline issued to a CCA should not be punitive.

### Article 17

**Article 17.2.B.** – The term *union officer* has been changed to *union representative* in Article 17.2.B for clarification. Agreement has also been reached to update the JCAM explanation of this section.

### Quick Hits:

#### Information you should know

\* In 1994, at the 59th Biennial National Convention in Atlantic City NJ, the members voted to give the NALC the power to negotiate collective bargaining contracts separately from the other postal unions.

\* New generation delivery vehicles will begin deployment between January and March of 2020. The Postal Service is set to purchase 180,000 vehicles.

\* Electric vehicles are being tested, the Nissan Leaf and the Chevy Bolt, these vehicles would be utilized for park and loop routes.

\* Mobile Delivery Device (MDD): future updates...Docking stations will be available in all new vehicles, additional battery reserve when power is low, warning message when you scan a

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# I'm Not Tired, I'm Retired

I received my copy of *The Postal Record* for June and saw where there is a *Tentative Agreement* waiting on ratification by the membership. My first opening of the *Record* is to read the section called *Branch Items*. As Yogi Berra said it's *déjà vu all over again*. Branch scribes from Alaska to California, Maine to Florida and throughout the Midwest and West, it seems issues remain the same that cause union stewards and officers to have to defend the membership through the grievance procedure. What is disconcerting is that the grievances are repetitive! You know, equitability for overtime, M-41 and M-39 issues such as office standards, etc., unsatisfactory attendance, then the ever presence of management's consistent violation of previous arbitration awards, Step 4s and local B team agreements, then you have the weekly safety talks that stress the word *safety*, but actually mean nothing unless you violate a safety procedure, they tell about missed scans of MSPs or parcels and show you TV programs. Now this day and age the letter carrier has to deal with scanning and the (Big Brother is watching) GPS devices. DPS is still DPS (I stated that the abbreviation is *Doesn't Produce Service*) with that little device, the scanner, management can tell exactly what you've done all day. You know, if you've had to go to the bathroom too much or too long, expanded your 10-minute street break or expanded your 30-minute lunch,

but it doesn't watch the fox in the hen house.

Before you even really start your day, you are confronted by management with a count of your mail especially if you deem it necessary to require a Form 3996 Auxiliary Assistance. They haven't actually physically counted your raw mail, accountables, parcels or even your DPS mails. However, they have guess-ta-mated your volume and through a new computerized program or an energy drink known only to the *Wizard of Oz* called PET (Performance Enhancement Tool) which at one time was called DOIS or before that called DUVRS. A scribe out of Lexington, Kentucky, Greg Craven from Branch 41 confirmed what I always told management, that the computer figures and formula they use to estimate my office and street times are only a tool, that is all, and cannot be used to dictate my office and street times. To me it was a game and I hated losing the game which on occasion I did. I don't think that the M-39 or M-41 has changed with regards to the time allotments: one minute for every 18 letters, one minute for every 8 flats, one minute for every 70 pieces pulled down, one minute for every 10 pieces of turn-backs/CFS, etc. This info is in Greg's article on page 72 of the *Record* or you can get it by reading your M-41 that should be at everyone's case if you care about your job. I know there is

somewhere in the contract or manuals that states that you have to make a *Satisfactory Effort* if you reach a specific age (55+) and have over 25+ years of seniority. I used that at least the last 6 years I was employed. I am in no way suggesting that you go out of your way to impede delivery of the mails. You, as a letter carrier, are expected to do a professional job every day and to represent the United States Postal Service! However, I do say that you are expected to know what your job entails every day of the week! I took my job as a challenge every day to be better than the day before. On the many routes I carried, I very seldom received a complaint about my attitude, late delivery or mis-delivery of mails to anyone. The complaints seemed to revolve around my day off, if I was on leave, vacation or had given a trip away. I would be disappointed if I mis-sorted mail and could not deliver it to my customers unlike the DPS machinery that seemed to mis-sort letters to the route especially those letters that did not belong to the route, ZIP code and sometimes the USA.

**Please remember if you are having a problem, set up time to see your steward ASAP. Knowing your job is doing your job!**



Ray Garcia  
Member  
Branch 599

## Around the Horn from the President's Desk

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parcel business closed in a residential location.

- \* Amazon plans to open new sorting centers in 10 states.
- \* Target is testing same-day and next-day delivery parcel delivery with the USPS in Minnesota.
- \* The USPS is the largest e-Commerce mailer in the country.

\* USPS is testing rolling shelving for the 2-ton trucks. The clerks load the shelves with parcels, the carriers roll the shelves into the trucks and lock into place. It is being tested in Pittsburgh PA; the NALC is monitoring the testing to see if this would be a crossing craft issue.

\* New PS Form 3849 testing is in progress in Virginia; horizontal form with a sticky top part for left notice.

\* National negotiations produced long talks on workplace improvement. The program JWIP, Joint Workplace Improvement Process will consist of our National Business Agent and USPS Area Manager Labor Relations. Jointly, they will address the areas/offices that need attention.

**Look forward to talking to you again on the next *Around The Horn***



*4<sup>th</sup> Annual MDA  
Charity Golf Tournament  
@  
Heritage Harbor  
Golf & Country Club  
Sponsored By  
NALC Branch 599*

*Hole Sponsor \$100  
Includes a Sign at  
tee box!*

*Putting or Chipping  
\$150 includes  
Sign at Contest*

**November 5, 2017**

*Contact Info: Alan Robinson 813-843-9762 / Tony Diaz 813-598-9635 or 813-875-0599*

*Business Name or*

*Individual Name:*

*Address:*

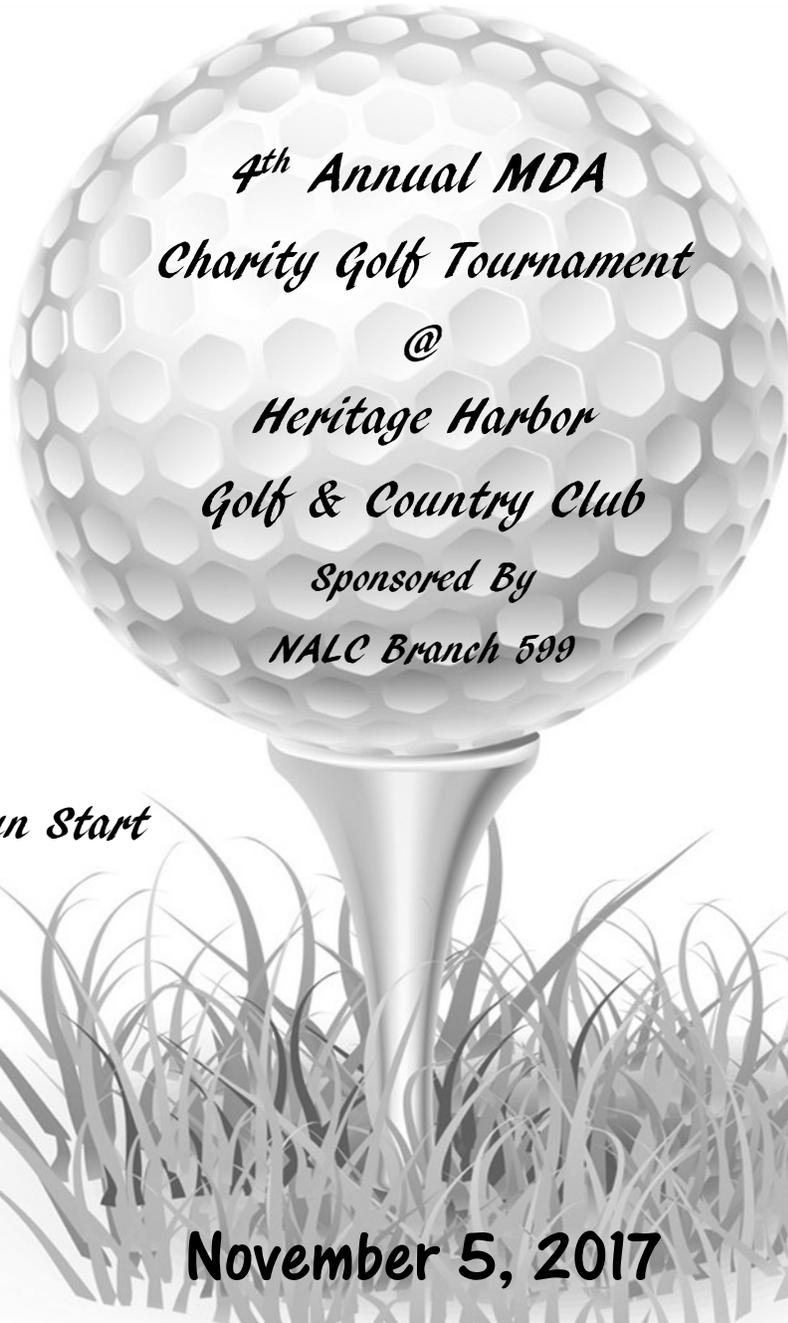
*Phone:*

*Email:*

*Message on Sign:*

MDA Federal ID#13-1665552

Make Checks payable to: NALC Branch 599; For MDA; 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609



*4<sup>th</sup> Annual MDA  
Charity Golf Tournament  
@  
Heritage Harbor  
Golf & Country Club  
Sponsored By  
NALC Branch 599*

*8:00 AM Shotgun Start  
\$60 per person  
Range Balls  
Round of Golf  
Lunch*

*Longest Drive  
Closest to Pin  
Optional:  
Chipping/Putting  
Contest*

**November 5, 2017**

*Contact Info: Alan Robinson 813-843-9762 / Tony Diaz 813-598-9635 or 813-875-0599*

Golfer 1 _____	Golfer 3 _____
Golfer 2 _____	Golfer 4 _____
All Money Due by October 28, 2017	

Make Checks payable to: NALC Branch 599; For MDA; 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609

# Caught in the Crossfire

A female carrier was struck in the hip by a bullet that came through the window of her United States Postal Service truck in East Oakland, California, Friday, July 7.

She was caught in the crossfire of two groups shooting at each other as she delivered the mail, Oakland police said. The shots were fired around 12:15 PM, according to news reports.

The letter carrier was seated in her vehicle when she was struck, USPS spokesperson Gus Ruiz said. She was taken to Highland Hospital where she's being treated for non-life threatening injuries.

An eyewitness said that he saw a young man running down the street firing a weapon. I saw the postal worker in the truck trying to escape and she collapsed

in the middle of the street and I saw him continue to run down Bancroft Avenue firing the weapon. He said he didn't believe the bullet was intended for the postal worker. I think she may have just gotten in the way.

USPS workers loaded mail from the wounded carrier's truck into a backup vehicle.

-Postal News

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**Shop Stewards will Meet**

Tuesday 7 PM  
August 8  
September 5

**Branch 599 Meeting**

Thursday 7:30 PM  
August 10  
September 7

**Executive Board Meets**

Thursday 6:30 PM  
August 10  
September 7

**Sunday Work Party**

at our Hall 9-11 AM  
August 13  
September 10

**Retirees Breakfasts**

*Note Changes!*

Monday August 7 9 AM  
Denny's Restaurant at Dale Mabry & Spruce  
2004 N Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa

Tuesday August 8 8:30 AM  
Bob Evans Restaurant off Fletcher  
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