



USPS Annual Report to Congress



The opening paragraph from Postmaster General Donahoe and USPS Board of Governors Chairman, Mickey Barnett's letter to Congress reads

"The theme of this year's annual report -- Delivering a New Day -- reflects a renewed commitment on the part of the United States Postal Service (USPS) to view every day as a new opportunity to deliver great service to our customers. This is fitting, because throughout 2014, we delivered more than 155 billion packages and pieces of mail to almost 154 million delivery points and did so reliably and affordably. In doing so, we earned the trust of the American public by maintaining the privacy and security of the items we delivered."

After reading just the first paragraph I could barely get through the rest of the eighty plus pages of propaganda but I did and you should too. ([go to npmhu308.org for the full report](http://npmhu308.org)) The hypocrisy of these two obviously has no bounds, it is as infinite as their destructive vision for the United States Postal Service and with it our livelihoods. Defining the theme for the annual report as a "A new opportunity to deliver great service to our customers" while in just a few short days we will degrade service to those "valued" customers, whose trust, according to Donahoe, we have just earned. Combine this with their misguided plan to consolidate more than 80 facilities across the country, and the spin that we are actually hearing from Postal leadership is nothing short of mind boggling. To you and me, and most rational persons, slowing the mail even further seems to run counter to providing "great service". Without batting an eye they continue their spew by claiming that they have earned the trust of the American mailing public by "maintaining the privacy and security" of the mail while at the same time outsourcing collection to places like Staples with employees who do not undergo the same pre-hiring scrutiny or screening as Postal employees. This report even has a section entitled "Putting Customers First", I wish I was kidding. Notwithstanding the fact that what they say obviously has no relationship with what they do, there is

a vague description of their intention under the heading *What's Needed*. Here's what they have to say,

Require within the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program a set of specific health care plans that would fully integrate with Medicare and virtually eliminate the retiree health benefits unfunded liability.

Adjust the FERS payment amount using Postal Service-specific demographic and salary growth assumptions and refund any existing surplus.

Adjust delivery frequency (six-day packages/five day mail).

Streamline governance model and eliminate duplicative oversight.

Provide authority to expand products and services.

Require defined contribution retirement system for future Postal Service employees.

Require arbitrators to consider the financial condition of the Postal Service.

Reform Workers' Compensation.

Allow the Postal Service the right to appeal EEOC class action decisions to Federal Court.

Like anything else Brothers and Sisters, the devil is in the details. What the Postal Service thinks it needs is generally not good for the employees who actually move the mail.

In Solidarity,
John Gibson

STEWARDS' TRAINED

Branch Presidents and Chief Shop Stewards from around the local convened at Local Union Headquarters on December 4th for an advanced training session. Conducting the seminar were National Shop Steward Trainer Paul Hogrogian and National Contract Administration Department representative Tim Dwyer. Also joining the gathering was Tom Ruther our Northeast Regional Director. In our continuing efforts to enhance the level of representation we provide, the Local has scheduled additional stewards workshops for early March of 2015.



Paul Hogrogian, Stuart Beckman, Tom Ruther, Mike Rembelinsky, Bob Glycener, Joe Zelenenki, Mike Mohan, Phil Camilari, Ed Tucker, Ron Judge, Garry Simmons, John Gibson, Joe Lutcavage, Brian Carson, Shonn Turner, Nick Campellone, George Gohr, Bill Harris, Jerome Greer, Jim Jordan, Joe Stancell, Sean Craig, Brian Clark, Tim Dwyer
Seated: Gerri Sterrette-Cooper, Joann Colella, Jeanette Lanza, Catherine Carey, Valarie Waters.

SCRANTON CONSOLIDATION

The Union is finally in receipt of the Postal Service's proposed post-consolidation staffing profile for the Scranton facility. As we previously reported, on October 7, 2014 management informed us of its intent to change its staffing model from 17 Mail Handlers remaining after the consolidation to 6 PTR mail handlers remaining post consolidation. As you know it is a violation of the Contract to staff an entire facility with PTRs and we made this point clear on October 7th. During our meeting of October 23rd the employer agreed that staffing would consist of full-time regular mail handlers but could not provide actual numbers. Management has now reported that it intends to staff the facility with five full-time regular mail handlers with vary-

ing schedules involving Sunday and one other day off. This is not the last of it as far as we are concerned as both Brother Glycener and Brother Butsko continue to construct counter arguments and proposals. As we have previously discussed, this is once again a case of the theoretical versus the practical. We do not believe this is a realistic staffing model for the work that will exist following consolidation and we aim to convince management or an arbitrator if necessary. It is our intention to schedule additional meetings with a management early in the new year in an effort to minimize the impact to the mail handlers in Scranton. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Scranton Branch President Bob Glycener or Local Headquarters directly.

SERVICE STANDARD CHANGES

As you all know the Postal Service in their infinite wisdom will degrade our Service effective January 5th, 2015 and with that many facilities are once again experiencing the pain of restructuring. Repeated duty assignments and time changes are occurring throughout the Local and indeed throughout the country. The staffing profiles created in the wake of these operational changes are often based on faulty hours reports. It is in your interest to make sure you are logged into the correct operation and should insist on clocking the right move if you are re-assigned within the facility.

*NPMHU, Local 308
President's Report
December 2014*