



Involuntary Reassignments



On Friday June 5, 2014 the Postal Service notified the Mail Handlers Union, in accordance with Article 12.5 of the National Agreement of its intention to involuntarily reassign employees excessed to the needs of a section. Upon receipt of said notification, I contacted Plant Manager Terry Morrow immediately in order to request a meeting to discuss the potential impact. On 6/11/14 representatives from NPMHU Local 308 met with the Service to discuss these potential "involuntary reassignments". The reason given in the notification letter was, "this action is due to changes in operational needs." The Service indicated from the start of the meeting that what was being discussed was preliminary, and that scope of the impact had not been determined as of yet. One item discussed at length was scanning and color coding. Management emphasized the importance of scanning, as it generates work hours and shows individual "touching" of each piece of mail as it passes through the system. The discussion primarily involved impact to Tour 2 based on the rapid drop-off of standard mail volumes according to the Service. At this point the Service indicated that based on the preliminary numbers, that there would be reductions in both Level 4 and Level 5 mail handlers on Tour 2 but the scope of impact has not yet been determined. Also discussed were potential changes to the 6:30 a.m. start time, with some discussion on keeping some of the current 6:30 a.m. bids in place for the mail handler craft in order to facilitate unloads and "filling up the system". While management in the notification indicated that the earliest date of impact would be no sooner than July 31, 2014, the overall feeling is that it could be later. Obviously, we are looking to minimize impact to the craft and ensure that if and when impact occurs, that the Service follows their contractual obligations. As more details become available they will be communicated to the membership, and as always, if there are any questions please contact any union representative.

In Solidarity,

Joseph Zelenenki
NPMHU Local 308
Phila. NDC Branch President

6/12/14