LABOR RELATIONS



Mr. Joey Johnson Director of Labor Relations National Rural Letter Carriers' Association 1630 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314-3467

> Re: G06R-4G-C09148950 Donna Fuller Fort Worth, TX 76118-9998

Dear Joey:

On several occasions, the most recent being April 13, 2011, the parties discussed the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether management violated the National Agreement when the equipment used to transport the mail for loading into the delivery vehicle was changed during the mail count.

During our discussion, we mutually agreed that the following will constitute full and complete settlement of this grievance:

Section 525.14 of Handbook M-38, *Management of Rural Delivery Services*, states, "No changes in carrier work methods, casing equipment, or office procedures can be made between the date of the local conference and the mail count unless these items were specifically discussed at the conference."

Additionally, the Step 4 settlement in case #E06R-4E-C09341430 states, "The parties agree the purpose of the pre-count conference is to discuss count procedures and if applicable, introduce operational changes. Absent changes that could not affect a rural route's evaluation or changes to comply with previously established regulations, the work methods and office procedures that remained unchanged at the pre-count conference will be retained during the mail count in accordance with Handbook M-38, Section 525.1, *Local Conferences.* 

The parties agree that changing the equipment used to transport the mail for loading into the delivery vehicle is considered an operational change and must be discussed during the pre-count conference in order to be introduced during the mail count.

Based upon the facts of the instant case, no further action is required.

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to settle this case.

Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

IM

Cathy M. Perron Labor Relations Specialist Contract Administration (NRLCA)

/Johnson/ Joey C.

Director of Labor Relations National Rural Letter Carriers' Association

Date: <u>5-13-</u>2011