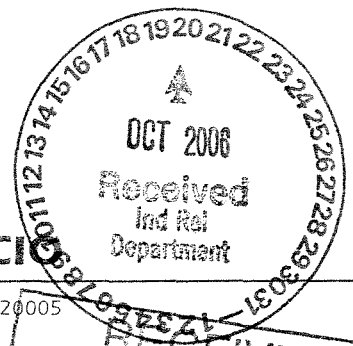




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American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

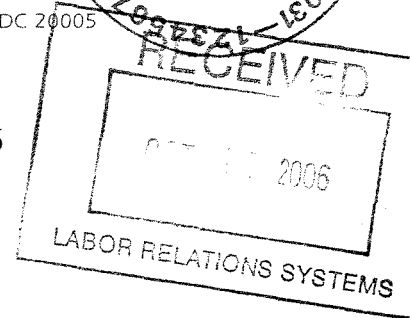
1300 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Initiate National Dispute

Greg Bell, Director
Industrial Relations
1300 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202-842-4273 (Office)
202-371-0992 (Fax)

October 12, 2006

Mr. Doug Tulino
Vice President, Labor Relations
U.S. Postal Service, Room 9014
475 L'Enfant Plaza
Washington, D.C. 20260



National Executive Board
William Burrus
President

Cliff "C.J." Guffey
Executive Vice President

Terry R. Stapleton
Secretary-Treasurer

Greg Bell
Industrial Relations Director

James "Jim" McCarthy
Director, Clerk Division

Steven G. "Steve" Raymer
Director, Maintenance Division

Robert C. "Bob" Pritchard
Director, MVS Division

Re: APWU No. HQTG200612, Cert No. 70000600002122945125

Dear Mr. Tulino:

In accordance with the provisions of Article 15, Section 2 and 4, of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, the American Postal Workers Union is initiating a Step 4 dispute.

The issues and facts involved in this dispute are as follows:

In Postal Bulletin 22190 (Sept. 28, 2006), the Postal Service announced revisions to USPS Handbook AS-805, *Information Security*. These changes directly relate to wages, hours or working conditions within the meaning of Article 19. However, the union was not provided any notification of these changes and only discovered the changes because they were published in the Postal Bulletin.

Among the changes are new restrictions on bringing "personal information resources (e.g. laptops, notebooks, personal digital assistants [PDAs], handheld computers, or storage media including universal serial bus [USB] port devices) into Postal Service facilities" (5-9.a), as well as the use of these devices in Postal Service facilities "without written approval from the user's vice president or his or her designee." (7-3.2.3)

Prior to these changes, the only limitation on employees use of personal information resources was a restriction on the use of PDAs, as follows: "Personal digital assistants (PDAs) and handheld devices not issued by the Postal Service must be registered with an employee's direct supervisor." (7-3.2.3)

In addition, to the extent these changes apply to APWU representatives, they would have an adverse impact on the union's ability to perform its duties and,

Step 4 - Direct Appeal

K. Rachel
A. Johnson
J. Dockins
M. Hercules (with case file)

Copy to: Union, Binder

consequently, constitute a violation of the union's rights under the collective bargaining agreement and the National Labor Relations Act.

Furthermore, as you are aware, Article 19 of the National Agreement includes the following obligation and requirement regarding notices of proposed changes to handbooks, manuals or published regulations of the Postal Service that directly relate to wages, hours, and working conditions, as they apply to employees covered by the National Agreement, before such changes can be issued:

The employer will furnish the union with the following information about each proposed change: a narrative explanation of the purpose and the impact on employees, and any documentation concerning the proposed change from the manager who requested the change, addressing its purpose and effect.

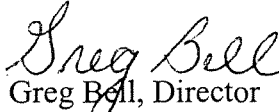
In the instant case, the Postal Service has failed to furnish the Union with notification of the proposed change, a narrative explanation of its purpose and impact on employees, and any documentation concerning the proposed change from the manager(s) who requested the change addressing its purpose and effect.

It is requested that this information be provided immediately. As you know, the Postal Service is required to furnish this information at least sixty (60) days before it can issue any proposed changes that directly relate to wages, hours or working conditions, as they apply to employees covered by the National Agreement.

Please be advised that it is the APWU's position that the Postal Service has refused to deal in good faith by its failure and refusal to furnish the APWU with each proposed change in the above-referenced handbook, manual, or published regulation(s), and with a narrative explanation of the purpose and impact on employees and any documentation concerning each proposed change from the manager(s) who requested the change addressing its purpose and effect. The Postal Service's action violates the parties' collective bargaining agreement and constitutes an unfair labor practice.

Please contact me to discuss this dispute at a mutually scheduled time.

Sincerely,


Greg Bell, Director
Industrial Relations

APWU #: HQTG200612

Dispute Date: 10/12/2006

Case Officer: Greg Bell

Contract Article(s): 19, No Prior Notification

cc: Resident Officers
File