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**APWU
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

September 28, 2017

Mr. Mark Dimondstein
President
American Postal Workers
Union (APWU)
1300 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-4128

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Dear Mark:

This letter is in regards to the jurisdictional craft determination for operation of the Flat Postal Automated Redirection System (FPARS). Members of the RI-399 National Dispute Resolution Committee (NDRC) visited the Milwaukee, Wisconsin Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) and the Central Massachusetts P&DC on August 8 and 10, respectively. By letter dated August 23, the Postal Service asked the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) and the National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU) to provide feedback regarding if a national craft jurisdiction determination is needed and if so, input regarding which craft should be the primary craft for operation of the machine. The Postal Service received input from the NPMHU by letter dated September 11 and the APWU by letter dated September 18.

As stated during the Central Massachusetts P&DC site visit, there are currently 18 P&DCs that have an FPARS operation. It is being considered to add an FPARS operation to one additional P&DC, with no plans for further expansion beyond the one location.

The FPARS program provides the capacity to lift mail piece images and apply labels to flat mail. It leverages the existing hardware and software infrastructure currently in place with the Postal Automated Redirection System (PARS). The FPARS is a hardware and software modification to the Automated Flat Sorting Machine 100 (AFSM 100), and there are 4 variations, 1) Automatic Induction (AI) and the Automatic Tray Handling System (ATHS), 2) AI without the ATHS, 3) No AI with the ATHS, and 4) No AI and no ATHS.

Primary craft jurisdiction for AFSM 100 has previously been determined, including craft jurisdiction with the additional enhancements of AI and/or the ATHS.

After reviewing the equipment operation, previous jurisdictional craft determinations, careful consideration of the input from the APWU and NPMHU, and applying the principles of RI-399, the Postal Service has determined that there is no need for a national craft jurisdiction determination on the enhancement of the AFSM 100 with the FPARS. Due to the limited locations and variations of the FPARS, any issues regarding craft jurisdiction should be handled by the Local Dispute Resolution Committee.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shannon Richardson at extension 5842.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rickey R. Dean', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rickey R. Dean
Manager
Contract Administration (APWU)