

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20260

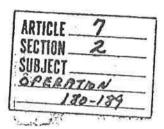
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APWU CLERK DIVISION

Mr. Cliff J. Guffey Assistant Director Clerk Craft Division American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO 1300 L Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-4107

SEP 1 3 1988



Re: Local

Long Beach, CA 90809

H4C-5C-C 45728

Dear Mr. Guffey:

On August 9, 1988, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether the duties of sorting mail in operation 180-189 is a mail handler or clerk craft position.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agreed that no national interpretive issue is fairly presented in this case. During our discussion, we further agreed that the determining factor for craft jurisdiction, is the purpose of the operation. The number of separations is not necessarily the determining factor on whether or not an operation is a distribution or separation. If the work being performed primarily distributes the mail at the opening unit for zones (stations, branches), carrier units, AOs, etc., then the craft assigned should be clerks. In addition, the term "further processing" should not be construed as meaning that any time further processing of mail takes place in a