

## Marilyn's October Blog 2022

Marriott, Marquis visit Friday September 30, 2022, I joined Ivan Butts national NAPS president. Laurie Butts National Auxiliary president, Sheri Davis, Conference Direct, Sally Simpao San Francisco Branch 88 and California State Treasurer. We arrived at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis and were greeted by a sales and catering team excited to show off this five-star hotel property. The Marriott Marquis has undergone a complete refresh \$150 million guest rooms, public space and meeting rooms. We were escorted through to observe the ballrooms, numerous meeting rooms, spacious open seating areas the sleeping rooms and the View Lounge located at the very top floor, to look out on the city scape or an expansive view of the San Francisco Bay. The hotel is currently being updated to have WI-FI access throughout the entire hotel! Other info shared is the easy access by Bay Area Transit (BART) from SFO into the city to the Powell Street exit near the hotel. There is shopping and restaurants in walking distance. Including access to the famous cable car. San Francisco is called the city by the Bay; it is very compacted into seven square miles up and down hills it is a place where you can walk everywhere so wear comfortable walking shoes when in San Francisco and always bring a sweater or Jacket because it can be chilly in the evenings! The hotel has accommodations for handicap, large aisles, ramps and special elevators. According to hotel sales representatives we will own the hotel for our 2026 NAPS National convention! They had a very large welcome to NAPS on their media board! We ended our tour by being treated to a special tasting lunch by the award-winning chef. The goal was to provide a taste of the diverse unique menu offers available at the hotel, the food samples were outstanding, the service impeccable! The hotel is beautiful, spacious, and convenient. The streets around the hotel are safe and accessible and clean. Marriott staff was welcoming and eager to welcome NAPS to San Francisco for the 2026 National Convention!

### **Supervisor Customer Support position**

During SWC consultations. It was determined to allow level 24 and above Post Offices to post a Level 17 Customer Service Support position. This is not considered a supervisor position and it is not currently eligible for the SDA as other customer service supervisors. In the past for a Level 24 PM to post a level 17 Customer Support Position they had to give up a Customer Service Supervisor, that is no longer a requirement!

**Begin Time 2 Delivery Up Time** – Beginning October 1<sup>st</sup> offices processing am mail are required to have a supervisor on duty (some opening as early as 2:00a.m if there is a clerk working in the unit. NAPS National has inquired regarding the business decision for this change in supervisor staffing! Supervisors have been calling expressing concern about how this order has negativity impacted supervisors already strained staffing. NAPS will provide any responses to the field once a response is received from USPS HQ>

***DO THE RIGHT THING - NAPS National and State Officers continue to hear that supervisors are being required to case and deliver mail. This is due to ongoing staffing shortages impacted by COVID impacts, Slow hiring of non-career, non-retention of non-career employees, retirements and resignations. We hear of the long hours, curtail routes, carriers on the street late at night and general pleas from our members of feeling burned out!***  
***This issue has been addressed repeatedly to USPS HQ and to Local and District Postal officials. NAPS has issued our opinion in writing that we oppose EAS being required to perform craft work in non-emergency situations. The weak response received by NAPS from USPS amounts to a shoulder shrug! At all cost to employees morale, "serve the customer"! One national consultative feedback from USPS HQ was we will look into it and consider submitting a "directive ". Currently there has been no nationwide directive to end this from the agency. The unions are watching and are successful in filing grievances for EAS crossing crafts!***  
***The question, is it best for business to lower the service standards, overuse the EAS as a substitute work force, pay union grievances for EAS performing craft work and attempting to cut extra pay for EAS?***  
***In recent years the goal is to use data to drive performance. How can there be confidence in the data when it is not accurate based on the criteria of a stable compliment craft to management work force! The solution to this major problem is well above the Supervisors, Managers and Postmasters working in the field!***  
***My suggestion use every available tool including pivoting routes, asking for additional assistance via email and recording all mail on hand that could not be delivered daily. As long as EAS accept, they are senior management's solution to substituting for craft staffing there is little incentive to solve this very serious workplace problem!***

Tuesday November 8th is mid-term Election Day. Early voting starts later this month. Job security, individual and voting rights are on the ballot. It is important to research the candidates all the way down the ballot. Review the propositions and whether you should support or oppose. Make intelligent informed decisions, but please VOTE YOUR INTERESTS!

[marilynwalton@comcast.net](mailto:marilynwalton@comcast.net)