May 11, 2020

**Board Memo 031-2020: NAPS HQ COVID-19 Weekly Communication May 4-10, 2020**

Executive Board,

Please share with your members the attached NAPS HQ COVID-19 Weekly Communication for May 4-10, 2020. This communication will also be posted on NAPS Facebook and website, [www.naps.org](http://www.naps.org).

Thank you and stay safe.

NAPS Headquarters
NAPS COVID-19 Weekly Communication

May 4-10, 2020

To date, the total COVID-19 confirmed cases in the Postal Service is 2,212. Nationwide, there are 510 presumed USPS COVID-19 cases. Currently, 5,440 postal employees are in quarantine, while 15,475 postal employees have returned to work.

As a follow-up, due to the current status of the COVID 19 pandemic and its uncertainty over the next few months, the NAPS Executive Board, in the best interest of the Association and to protect the safety and health of NAPS members, approved the postponement of the 67th NAPS National Convention in Grapevine TX to August 30, 2021 through September 3, 2021. Please visit the NAPS website, naps.org, and view Board Memo 029-2020 on the Bulletin Board with updated information on the rescheduling of the National Convention from 2020 to 2021.

USPS HQ continues its daily dialogue with NAPS HQ. Furthermore, the USPS Area and District COVID-19 teleconferences continue on a regular or daily basis with NAPS resident officers and Executive Board members participating. When received, NAPS HQ will continue to forward COVID-19 related USPS stand-up talks to the executive board and post accordingly on the NAPS website, naps.org, under our NAPS COVID-19 Information & Resources page.

As a reminder, there is COVID-19 related issued material/information shared by the Postal Service at the National Level and filtered down to the Areas and Districts on the website listed below. This website may not be available to NAPS retirees, but are encouraged to click and try to access the link.

https://liteblue.usps.gov/lite-blue/covid19/welcome.htm

Legislatively, in the past few weeks NAPS has seen a tremendous ground swell of support for the USPS as we continue to move our grassroots legislative efforts with the help and support of family and friends in several ways.

On April 28, 2020, Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY) and Congressman Peter King (R-NY) today led 21 members of the New York Congressional Delegation in a bipartisan appeal to Congressional leadership to provide immediate help for the Postal Service. In their letter, the Members argue, “This is a national emergency. The American people rely on the Postal Service to deliver crucial goods and services every day, including more than a billion life-saving medications last year alone, millions of economic stimulus checks and unemployment benefits to help during this crisis, and 2020 Census forms for every household in America.”
On May 8, 2020, a bipartisan group of senators led by Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) and Senator Dianna Feinstein (D-CA), along with 10 other bipartisan Senators are requesting emergency funding for the USPS in the next coronavirus stimulus bill. In a letter, party leaders are asked to include direct aid, loan programs and safety measures for USPS workers in the next stimulus package. “As you develop additional coronavirus response legislation, we ask that you include significant emergency appropriations to help the USPS survive this crisis, as well as a mechanism to pay down the agency’s current debt obligations,” the lawmakers wrote to party leaders.

This ground swell of support has also been noting an increase of co-sponsor for H.R.6425 - Protect Our Post Offices Act, which now has 88 co-sponsors. There needs to be more bi-partisan support for rural America. As realized in past USPS delivery impacts, rural America often bears the brunt of lost service due to operational impacts.

Two Legislators, Sen Ron Johnson (R-WI) and Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH-4) recently requested the Government Accountability Office’s (GAO’s) report on the USPS. The report released by the GAO on May 7, 2020, highlights that since the GAO's 2009 high-risk designation, the U.S. Postal Service's financial viability as a business has progressively worsened. Based on recent polling data, America believes that this type of designation is inappropriate for an U.S. Constitutional enacted agency whose purpose was not to be a business, but for providing service to America.

We continue to witness the USPS deliver America’s needed medical pharmaceutical’s and essential supplies during this COVID-19 pandemic. However, along with the tremendous increase in packages, we are also seeing a tremendous increase in stamp sales, which reflects the appreciation of a grateful Nation to its USPS. This is also reflected in a song by Joe Troop being viewed on YouTube call for the Government to fully fund the USPS.

Remember, it is never too late to join in the NAPS’ grassroots efforts. Please contact your NAPS State Legislative Chair, NAPS Regional VP, NAPS Area Vice President or NAPS HQ for support in getting involved.

Even during this pandemic, members are encouraged to reach out to their respective regional or area vice presidents for support, information and inquiries, not just related to the pandemic, but issues involving the USPS or your respective NAPS branch.

To our NAPS family, we will get through this pandemic together, stronger than ever. Keep safe. Be vigilant. Have faith and God Bless!

NAPS Headquarters