

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

National Headquarters 1727 KING STREET, SUITE 400 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-2753 (703) 836-9660

## NAPS COVID-19 Weekly Communication

April 18-24, 2020

As of Friday, April 24, the Postal Service has 1,142 confirmed COVID-19 cases, and there are 755 presumed COVID-19 cases nationwide. There are 9,570 postal employees in quarantine, while 5,390 postal employees have returned to work. On April 21, the USPS issued a stand-up talk that cloth face coverings or masks are mandatory in support of local or state face covering directives or orders. In addition, face coverings and masks are mandatory in all facilities where social distancing cannot be maintained. NAPS supports this mandate, not only for employees in the workplace, but encourages everyone to wear some type of face covering or mask while in public places.

Daily dialogue with USPS HQ continues. NAPS resident officers, along with the Executive Board, continue to participate in USPS Area and District COVID-19 teleconferences. Additionally, NAPS forwards COVID-19 related USPS stand-up talks to the executive board to keep members informed.

On Wednesday, April 22, NAPS President Brian Wagner received a call from USPS Chief Operations Officer (COO) Dave Williams. Mr. Williams was checking in on NAPS and how our members were doing during the pandemic. President Wagner mentioned the continual need to have personal protection equipment (PPE) available to all employees is very important. Mr. Williams agreed and referenced the new USPS HQ COVID Supplies Command Center for procuring PPE supplies and its ability to rush these supplies to postal facilities with low inventory. President Wagner informed the COO that postal employees, especially EAS, are doing heroic work. Mr. Williams expressed his sincere thanks to NAPS and our members for all they are doing as a team to deliver the mail and serve postal customers during this pandemic. The COO appreciates NAPS' feedback to address any COVID-19 workplace related issues. In addition, Mr. Williams thanked the NAPS team for their ideas and suggestions to make operations and the workplace better and safer.

On the legislative front, NAPS continue to receive updates from members on our grassroots efforts to reach out to Congressional leadership for emergency financial support for the USPS. Unfortunately, not all the responses received by legislators for our call to create, co-sponsor, and pass companion Senate legislation for H.R. 6425, *Protect Our Post Offices Act*, reflected the support for their constituents and the country that all Americans should expect from their elected officials. However, we are grateful for our members sharing those responses to give NAPS Headquarters the opportunity to help provide needed clarification.



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The NAPS legislative team implores everyone to remain engaged with NAPS headquarters in this grassroots effort. Furthermore, your NAPS legislative team will be launching a more focused grassroots advocacy effort to 14 targeted states for US Senate engagement. We will again coordinate this effort with the respective NAPS State Legislative Chair, NAPS Regional VPs and NAPS Area Vice Presidents. NAPS will expand upon the previous support for the USPS voiced in S. Res 99, a resolution expressing that Congress should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and is not subject to privatization, and combine it with the current need for emergency financial support for the user to the USPS due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact your NAPS State Legislative Chair, NAPS Regional VP, NAPS Area Vice President or NAPS HQ for support in getting involved.

On the financial side, it has been a challenging time for NAPS. Just as members may have seen a decline in their retirement and investment accounts, NAPS has as well. NAPS HQ has 3 major sources of revenue: membership dues, rent from the NAPS HQ building, and our PNC investment account. NAPS also receives smaller streams of revenue from a few other sources, but those are not as consequential as the three previously mentioned.

When a pillar of NAPS' revenue is impacted, it is definitely a concern. Increasing membership numbers, keeping the NAPS HQ building fully occupied, and a strong investment portfolio keep adequate revenue flowing into NAPS HQ, allowing NAPS to meet its obligations without raising per capita dues on members. NAPS remains strong and viable, fully capable of meeting any and all of its responsibilities, such as our pending lawsuit against the USPS. Yet, we have seen a decline on our investment portfolio over the past several months, reflected in the steep stock market slides. However, NAPS has been here before, so our investment portfolio is constructed to weather these types of storms. The NAPS investment portfolio is broad and fairly conservative, and we have been working with our investment advisor on a regular basis. NAPS assets are allocated in cash, fixed income and equities, a good balance that may not reap the highest rewards when the markets are soaring, but will also not feel the dramatic impacts when the markets are tumbling. We are built for this uncertainty, and as always, we are confident the economy and the markets will return to strength once we pass this crisis.

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