NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS



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

NAPS COVID-19 Weekly Communication

May 11-17, 2020

To date, there have been a total of 2,373 COVID-19 confirmed cases in the Postal Service. Currently, 5,485 postal employees are in quarantine, while 17,201 postal employees have returned to work.

NAPS has received numerous notices from NAPS Area Vice-Presidents and NAPS state branches that upcoming NAPS state conventions have been canceled for the remainder of the year. Please visit the NAPS website link below to see what NAPS state conventions have been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

https://naps.org/Naps-Training-Center

NAPS continues to post on the NAPS website COVID-19 related information. Visit naps.org to view our NAPS COVID-19 Information & Resources page. NAPS executive board members continue to attend regular USPS Area and District COVID-19 teleconferences. Please contact your respective NAPS Area Vice President for updates related to your respective USPS Area and District.

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

During this pandemic, NAPS HQ continues conducting the daily business of the Association. NAPS is preparing for its annual audit for the current fiscal year (June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020) which is being conducted by the accounting firm of CohnReznick.

On May 15, 2020, the House passed H.R. 6800 - *HEROES Act*. The vote was passed by the Yeas and Nays: 208 – 199. The benefits to America's Postal Service contained in the bill include;

- Payment of \$25 billion to the Postal Service to offset revenues lost due to coronavirus, with those funds remaining available until September 30, 2022. (Sec. 10302)
- A loan of up to \$10 billion to the Postal Service and prohibiting the Secretary of the Treasury from setting conditions on the availability of the funds. (Sec. 70603)
- A federal commitment to pay premium pay to essential workers, paid at a rate equal to \$13 per hour (up to \$10,000) for work performed from January 27, 2020 until 60 days after the pandemic public health emergency has ended. (Sec. 170102)

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- A presumption of eligibility for Workers Compensation benefits for Federal employees diagnosed with coronavirus (Sec. 70303)
- Authorization to the USPS OIG to provide oversight, audits, and investigations of projects and activities carried out with funds provided by the legislation. (Sec. 70105)

It is unfortunate that despite some of our legislators stating their support of America's Postal Service and their love for military veterans, which the USPS is the largest civilian employer of Vets, that 199 of our elected Representatives in Congress voted against the *HEROS Act*. NAPS thanks those 208 Representatives for their support not just in words, but in action.

The Bill's provisions covering the Postal Service are consistent with the attitudes of many Americans providing support for the Postal Service and its hardworking, brave employees who continue to move America's mail during this worldwide pandemic.

NAPS is again sharing a song by <u>Joe Troop</u>, which can be viewed on YouTube, with a call for the Government to fully fund the USPS. This is will well worth watching and calling your Congressional leaders to fully support financially the Postal Service as a result of this COVID-19 pandemic.

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