Hyatt Regency New Orleans NAPS 68th National Convention

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Elections

Following are nominations for Executive Board members:

President—Ivan D. Butts

Executive Vice President—Chuck Mulidore

Secretary/Treasurer—Jimmy Warden

Northeast Region Vice President — Tommy Roma

Eastern Region Vice President— Richard L. Green Jr.

Central Region Vice President — Craig Johnson

Southern Region Vice President— Jaime Elizondo Jr.

Western Region Vice President— Marilyn Walton

New England Area Vice President—Bill Austin

New York Area Vice President— Dee Perez

Mideast Area Vice President— Tony Dallojacono

Capitol-Atlantic Area Vice President—Troy Griffin

Pioneer Area Vice President—Ed Laster

Michiana Area Vice President — Kevin Trayer

Illini Area Vice President—Greg Harris, Luz Moreno

North Central Area Vice President—Dan Mooney

MINK Area Vice President—Kelly McCartnev

Southeast Area Vice President— Robert "Bobby" Bock, Roe Herzog

Central Gulf Area Vice President— Kyle Laurendine, Dwight Studdard

Cotton Belt Area Vice President— Shri Green **Texas Area Vice President**—Pam Davis, Yolanda Grayson, John Lomba

Northwest Area Vice President — Aric Skjelstad, John Valuet

Rocky Mountain Area Vice President—Myrna Pashinski

Pacific Area Vice President— Chuck Lum

After the elections were closed, the three resident officers offered the following remarks:

President Ivan D. Butts—"I am so humbled to serve you and our association! I love NAPS and the family we have. I truly believe there is more for us, but we have to pursue it. For a number of years, we've gone backward and fallen behind.

"We're working now in a cooperative effort with the board and my fellow resident officers to do our best to change that course. Each time we sit down, it's going to be with the mindset we're going to put more money in your pockets.

"I'm grateful to fight this fight for two more years and will serve with all my strength, all my heart and all my soul."

Executive Vice President Chuck Mulidore—"Thanks, everybody. I'm overwhelmed and honored to serve as executive vice president. The team at NAPS Headquarters is a good team. We get along, we're friends and we work well together. We're on a roll!

"NAPS is back and is important again to the Postal Service. The lawsuit, the legislation—it's a great time to be a NAPS member. Spread the word! Get more first-timers to this event. Sign more members; tell them they need to join NAPS. Thank you so much."

Secretary/Treasurer Jimmy Warden: "I want to thank you all. I'm very

humbled to be allowed to serve you for the next two years. Last year, I asked you for a mortgage—lend me your vote for one year and I will pay you back. I hope I paid you back.

"Over the next two years, that agreement still stands. You just gave me your faith and trust to move forward and continue to serve you. I have two years to pay you back again; I'm humbled.

"Working with Ivan and Chuck is great. I look for bigger and better things for NAPS in the future!"

NAPS Branches Renamed

In honor of former Illini Area Vice Presidents Lorraine Harry (50-plus years as a NAPS member) and Dr. Nancy Wesley, South Suburban, IL, Facility Branch 493 has been renamed the L. Harry/Dr. N. Wesley Branch 493, effective August 2022.

In honor of Richmond, VA, Branch 98 President Arnold Navarre, the branch has been renamed the Arnold Navarre Branch 98. Members of Navarre's family (he is from New Orleans) joined him on stage Thursday morning during the presentation of the charter. Navarre told delegates to always focus on membership to ensure NAPS is around forever.

Audit Committee Report

Audit Committee Chair Arnie Rosario, with Assistant Chair Stephnia Campbell, presented their committee's report. The committee reviewed the financial records of 16 vendors and 28 Executive Board members for February and May 2021 and April and May 2022. After review, no major findings were found.

Ballot Committee Named

The Ballot Committee comprises
Robert Tolman, chair, South Dakota State
Branch 946; Bruce Kuiper, assistant chair,
Minneapolis Branch 16; Jon Kofsky, New
Jersey State Branch 933; Jeff Jones,
Evansville, IN, Branch 55; Virginia Price
Booker, Gateway, MO, Branch 131;
Sylvia Johnson, North Georgia District
595; Jackie Clayton, Las Vegas District
Branch 463; Karyn Rahming, Sacramento,
CA, Branch 77.

Ensuring a Viable Postal Service

Postmaster General Louis DeJoy addressed NAPS delegates Thursday morning. "Most places I go these days," he observed, "people are concerned about the Postal Service and are starting to recognize the work we do and the problems we've had."

DeJoy said USPS Headquarters has been busy with new initiatives and he's excited about the changes. "We're doing the right things strategically to bring the agency back to success," he said. When DeJoy assumed his position, the Postal Service was predicted to run out of cash in three months, the infrastructure was severely underfunded and there was no long-term strategy. "When you have a brand as great as ours and opportunities in front of it," he declared, "the first thing I said was we have to deliver six days a week to every address.

"That was not only our mission, but a strategy to bring definition to our mission and create growth. I was hired to fix and transform the agency. It takes action, good strategy and help from all of you.

"We're going to influence a change in the environment. We have a big voice and a big responsibility. The Postal Service is not just going to deliver mail, but also work to preserve the long-term viability of the organization."

DeJoy said there are massive problems to fix, but they're simple and straightforward. Also, as a result of postal reform legislation, the agency is in better financial condition to make needed improvements to the infrastructure. "We have the knowledge and power in the organization to do what needs to be done," he stressed. The Postal Service needs to be selfsustaining and cover its costs. "Leadership has to have a vision for the future and a strategy to get through the challenges we have," he asserted. "We have to take action."

DeJoy referenced the Postal Service's outstanding efforts in mailing COVID test kits to American households—the most successful fulfillment ever rolled out. They worked closely with the White House, which got to see firsthand the power of the USPS and its operational efficiency. "I plan to use that going forward," DeJoy declared.

"We have big initiatives in employee engagement to reduce turnover, we need stability. We are going at it, but we won't get through it without you. Our focus has to be on delivering mail and packages."

(See the September/October issue of The Postal Supervisor for complete coverage of DeJoy's remarks.)

NAPS Note

A name was misspelled on the "In Memorium" list. Under Heart of Illinois Branch 255, Frank Winters (not Waters).