APWU AFL-CIO NEW YORK AREA METRO POSTAL UNION

The Union Mail

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"The Labor Movement was the principal force that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress."–Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Union Keeps Fighting!

National Day of Action, USPS Lobby

ELECTION RULES
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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

My dream—to end the rule of greed

[Excerpted from the speech given on the JAF steps at the National Day of Action]

Jonathan Smith

This is what happens when our leaders are controlled by money and influence instead of right and wrong. . .

We're fighting the attack on labor, the middle class, the small business owner, the elderly, the veterans, and 99% of the American people. We're fighting against big business, privatization, and most of all–greed. We're fighting to give justice a seat at the bargaining table.

We are gathered here today to stand on the threshold of history, not postal history or American history, but moral and ethical history.

There are those who want to destroy the Postal Service, because the Postal Service symbolizes the strength of labor, the middle class, and America. . . . This country was built by men and women in overalls; it's being destroyed by men and women in suits and dresses. . . .

Martin Luther King, a great American, who happened to be an African-American, had a dream–. . . an American dream. I, too, have a dream. . . that our Congressmen and Senators will work more than they vacation; that the campaign of voter suppression will stop; that the right to work will someday mean what it says. . . .; that the minimum wage will be $15 and [all workers] will be allowed to have a union.

I also have a postal dream. . . . that we get a Postmaster General who wants to protect the Service instead of destroy it; that Congress will limit the [5.5 billion a year] prefunding mandate of the 2006 PAEA; that Staples and Walmart and whoever else would stay out of the mail business. (Nobody does it better than us!!!); that plant consolidation will stop and 6-day delivery will remain.

My greatest dream is that all the Postal Unions will continue to stick together. That is our greatest strength.. . . The labor movement was the principal force that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress. Out of this bold struggle for economic and social reform [came] unemployment insurance, pensions, government relief for the destitute and new wage levels that meant not mere survival, but a tolerable and decent life.

[Politicians] did not lead this transformation–Labor did.

The USPS will invest in technologies and machinery but won't invest in men and women who have made this the greatest post office in the world.

They must be reminded: Whose Post Office? The People's Post Office! The U.S. Mail is not for sale!

Impact of Delivery Standards change

As of 1/05/15, USPS has changed the delivery standards so they will no longer be held to next day delivery. This will dramatically change the work schedules for people in the plants.

This "Network Rationalization" is supposed to be in place by 1/10/15. We do NOT agree with it but we don't control staffing. Our job is to make management comply with the Contract and Local Memo as they make changes.

In DVD and Morgan, letters changing schedules are already being issued. Each clerk will get notification, whether affected or not. READ it to understand your options. There may be canvassing to see if you accept your job with new hours. If your job is abolished or reposted, you must BID as many places as your seniority to make sure you do not end up unassigned and placed into a residual.

The Postal Service says this is cheaper. This is a business argument. The union must make a service argument and keep the pressure on Congress to reinstitute delivery standards.

Cover photo by Joe Piette

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APWU AFL-CIO NEW YORK AREA METRO POSTAL UNION

AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION AFL-CIO PPA POSTAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

Metro NY Labor Communications Council

Nov. 14: National Day of Action

By Nora Mendez

On November 14, 2014, postal workers around the country sent a message to Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe and the USPS Board of Governors to Stop Delaying America's Mail. About 150 protests were organized in all 50 states to protest the consolidation of 82 mail distribution centers and the cuts to the service standards which will eliminate overnight delivery and forever damage the US Postal Service. Workers also went to their local post offices, senior centers, and shopping areas to leaflet and inform the public. The events were sponsored by the four postal unions: the American Postal Workers Union, the National Association of Letter Carriers, the National Postal Mail Handlers Union and the National Rural Letter Carriers Association.

In Washington, D.C. approximately 250 postal workers were denied entry to a "public" meeting of the Board of Governors. The postal workers refused to leave the lobby and started chanting "Let us in!" Soon after the meeting started, APWU President Mark Dimondstein, who stayed in the lobby with the demonstrators, read aloud a text he received from a union member who was able to enter the meeting that the Board had announced they had accepted the resignation of PMG Patrick Donahoe.

In New York City a crowd rallied on the steps of the main post office on 8th Avenue. Union officials and community supporters spoke against the cuts.

Fighting the Staples deal

By Nora Mendez

NY Metro has intensified its protests against Staples. A group of officers, retirees, members and community activists have been hitting the streets of New York on a daily basis trying to get the information out to the public. Postal workers must fight back against the USPS administration's agenda of selling out postal infrastructure and union jobs to the Big Box retail industry.

Recently USPS sent out a "Mail and Ship at Staples" promotion. Untold thousands of coupons offering 20% off USPS shipping service at Staples were mailed to postal customers. This is obviously a desperate act by USPS to prop up the Staples deal.

There are dozens of Staples stores in the area NY Metro oversees. The union needs more hands

Photo by Bernadette Evangelist

on deck. Director of Organization Kevin Walsh is urging all postal workers to join the fight to save our jobs. A weekly schedule is posted on NY Metro's website and Facebook page. You can also contact the office at (212) 563-7553.

NLRB Charges USPS with Illegal Surveillance of Staples

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has charged the USPS with illegally spying on postal employees while they protested the no-bid deal between the USPS and Staples that diverts postal work to Staples. The protests were not on or near postal property. The complaint stems from charges made by the APWU that the Postal Service dispatched managers posing as "media representatives" to the union protests. Once there, the managers took notes and photos of the rallies

The settlement requires the USPS to post a notice to employees that acknowledges that it is against the law to deny employees who are on non-work time to distribute union literature and solicit support for APWU activities.

"We will continue to protect the rights of APWU members to protest policies that threaten the public Postal Service and their jobs," said President Mark Dimondstein.

A hearing on the complaint will be held on March 11, 2015.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT:

Capitol Hill aids & abets the demise of America's Postal Service

By Nora Mendez

Imagine a donkey and an elephant holding a silver platter. On that platter is an eagle. Around the platter grunt a bunch of slobbering pigs, salivating with greed as they eye the eagle that is being handed to them for carving.

The donkey and the elephant represent the two political parties in power–the Democrats and the Republicans. The eagle is the symbol of the US Postal Service, and the pigs represent the greedy CEOs who lobbied Congress to privatize the post office. The corporate campaign contributions from FedEx, UPS, Pitney Bowes, Staples, Walmart and others to lawmakers on both sides of the aisle are finally paying off. The feast is about to begin.

Although 51 Senators and 174 House Representatives previously signed a letter to prevent the USPS from moving forward with the plant consolidations, the final Cromnibus did not include such a prohibition. Instead, the report on the bill only "encouraged" the Postal Service to delay the closures. Senators Tom Carper (D-DE) and Tom Coburn (R-OK) had written a letter to congressional appropriators telling them to ignore the original letter and allow the USPS to proceed with the consolidation plan. Carper and Coburn also attempted a last minute maneuver to include a major overhaul of the Postal Service in the spending bill, using a procedural move called ""unanimous consent," but several Democrats like Tammy Baldwin, Jon Tester, and Bernie Sanders (I-VT), objected and stymied the effort They opposed Carper's bill due to unpopular provisions like moving away from door-to-door delivery to cluster boxes and overhauling workers compensation for all federal employees.

In July, Carper and Coburn wrote to President Obama asking him to name a new PRC Chair to replace Democrat Ruth Goldway before her term expired. Goldway's positions on postal issues have often put her at odds not only with Issa, but also with Carper and Coburn. President Obama appointed Republican Robert Taub as the new Chair of the PRC. Taub is an enemy of the Postal Service who helped craft the 2006 PAEA that has forced the advance payments to future retiree health care.

At the same time, the USPS Board of Governors (BOG), which oversees the USPS budget and makes long-term plans for the Service, remains unchanged. This group of Bush appointees lost its quorum in December, when the Senate failed to take action on several Obama nominees. But, in flagrant disregard for the rules, the current Governors empowered themselves as a "temporary emergency committee" and continue to act as a Board.

In January, as a result of the midterm elections, the Republicans will control both chambers of Congress. This new alignment will be even more detrimental to postal workers. The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which oversees the USPS, will now be chaired by Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI), a Tea Party favorite with a business background, who has been a frequent critic of the federal workforce and the Postal Service. He has proposed significant federal budget cuts through reductions in federal employee and retiree benefits. He has suggested that the USPS undergo bankruptcy.

In the House, Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) will replace Rep. Darrell Issa as the Chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Chaffetz once introduced a bill that would grant the Postmaster General the authority to declare 12 postal "holidays" per year in order to reduce operating expenses. The fact that these unpaid days would violate the collectively bargained contract did not phase him in the least.

The struggle continues

With the Republicans in control of Congress, with Republicans holding a majority in the PRC and the Board of Governors, and with a President who doesn't seem to care much about preserving the USPS, the fight to Save America's Postal Service just got harder. We can expect more service cuts, more post office and plant closures, and more outsourcing to private industry.

But we can expect the postal workers and the American people to fight. Using our animal analogy, we will have to act as angry pit bulls, snapping and tearing at the pigs before the eagle is destroyed forever.

2015 Nominations and Election Notice and Campaign Rules for the New York Area Metro Postal Union APWU, AFL-CIO Election of Officers and Trustees

Pursuant to Article 12 of the New York Metro Area Postal Union (NYMAPU) Constitution, the NYMAPU Election Committee hereby adopts the following rules for the election of local union officers and trustees. The Election Committee has chosen to utilize the services of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) to help conduct the election. The provisions of Article 12 of the NYMAPU Constitution not specifically mentioned herein are incorporated by reference. A copy of these rules will promptly be provided to any member who requests a copy.

• **Election Committee:** The following individuals have been appointed by **President Jonathan Smith** and approved by the **Executive Board** to serve on the Election Committee and have full authority to implement all aspects of the election:

William Bachmann, Chairperson
Eleanor Bailey, Secretary
Dolores Young
William Pinedo
Gaetana Dunn

All correspondence to the Election Committee should be addressed or faxed to:

New York Metro Area Postal Union
350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10001
Fax: (212) 643-9051

• **Application of NYMAPU Constitution:** The election will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the NYMAPU Constitution, amended June 19, 2013.

• **Officers to be Elected:** The following officers are to be elected: President, Executive Vice-President, Director of Industrial Relations, Secretary-Treasurer, Director of Organization, Coordinating Vice-President, Legislative/Political Director, Director of the Bronx Division, Assistant Director of the Bronx Division, Director of the Clerk Division, Assistant Director of the Clerk Division, Director of Motor Vehicle, Director of Maintenance Division, Assistant Director of Maintenance Division, Director of Morgan P&DC, Assistant Director of Morgan P&DC, Director of the Dominick V. Daniels Facility, Assistant Director of the Dominick V. Daniels Facility, Director of the Network Distribution Center, Assistant Director of the Network Distribution Center and five (5) Trustees.

• **Term of Office:** The term of office is three (3) years. The installation of officers will be held at the next regular membership meeting after the election is certified by the Election Committee Chair.

• **Candidate Eligibility:** To be eligible to hold office a member must meet the following criteria:
(a) Any member in good standing shall be eligible to be a candidate for officer or trustee provided he/she has been a member in good standing continuously for one (1) year prior to the nominations meeting, with the following exceptions:
(b) Any member who has an application pending for a supervisor position in the Postal Service through participating in the PASS program, or other similar programs, shall be ineligible to be a candidate, hold any elective, and/or appointed position in the Union;
(c) Any employee eligible to be a member of the union who voluntarily holds a managerial, supervisory or EAS with responsibility for issuing or recommending discipline, or applying or interpreting the national agreement for the equivalent of a two (2) week period in a year, is ineligible to hold office for a period of one (1) year from the time the employee vacated such position; or
(d) Any member who has submitted an application for a managerial, supervisory and/or EAS position with responsibility for issuing, or recommending discipline, or for applying or interpreting the national agreement shall withdraw such application prior to acceptance of nomination for any office in the union.

• **Nominators:** To be eligible to nominate a candidate the nominator must be a member in good standing. In the case of craft officers, only a member of that particular craft may be nominated or vote for a candidate for craft office.

• **Nomination Notice:** On or before Monday January 12, 2015, the Notice of Nominations will be inserted in the January 2015, issue of the Union Mail. Notices will also be posted on Union bulletin boards in all postal facilities. The notice will advise the membership of candidate eligibility requirements, offices to be filled, the date, time and place of nominations, and the procedure for submitting and accepting nominations.

• **Nominations:** Nominations will be conducted at the regular membership meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 5:30 pm at:

Hotel Pennsylvania
401 Seventh Avenue
New York, NY 10001

Prior to the nominations meeting, the Election Committee will ensure the availability of a current list of members in good standing. At the meeting oral nominations will be accepted from the floor. No seconds will be required. Self-nomination will be permitted. Members need not be present to be nominated. Nominees can accept their nomination orally at the meeting or by prior written acceptance.

• **Candidate Eligibility Determinations:** The Election Committee will review the NYMAPU dues records to determine the eligibility of all nominees. Eligible nominees will be notified of their eligibility, provided a copy of these rules, and asked how they wish their names to appear on the ballot. Ineligible nominees will be advised of the reason(s) they are not eligible to run for office.

• **Slate Voting:** Any group of candidates representing at least sixty (60) percent of offices to be filled may run as a slate, provided they notify the Election Committee of their intention to do so no later than March 2, 2015. Detailed information on slates is laid out in NYMAPU Constitution, Article 12, Section 11, (a) through (e).

• **Candidates Meeting:** The Election Committee will meet with any interested candidates or their designees on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at the address below to discuss the election procedures:

New York Metro Area Postal Union Office
350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10001 @11:00 am

• **Inspection of Membership List:** The NYMAPU will make its most current membership list available for inspection by any candidate or their designee, upon request the week of March 2, 2015 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. Candidates wishing to inspect the list must make an appointment: to do so they should contact NYMAPU Secretary-Treasurer Sharon Tyrrell at (212) 563-7553, ext. 107, twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date. A candidate's right to inspect the membership list does not include the right to copy or receive a copy of it.

• **Campaign Restrictions:** The Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA) requires that all candidates be treated equally with respect and the opportunity to campaign. Section 401(g) of the LMRDA provides that "[n]o moneys received by any other labor organization by way of dues, assessments, or similar levy, and no moneys of an employer shall be contributed or applied to promote the candidacy of any person in the election subject to the provisions of this title. Such moneys of a labor organization may be utilized for notices, factual statements of issues not involving candidates, and other expenses necessary for the holding of an election."

This prohibition extends to equipment, vehicles, office supplies, records and personnel of the NYMAPU and any other labor organization, and to any employees, regardless of whether they employ Union members.
The LMRDA prescribes that members who exercise their right to support candidates of their choice may not be subjected to penalties, discipline or reprisals of any kind by a labor organization, or its members.

• **Distribution of Candidate's Campaign Material:** A candidate desiring to mail campaign materials to the NYMAPU membership shall make such a request to the Election Committee no later than five days before the ballots are counted. Uniform prices for mailing services will apply to all candidates.

• **Watchers:** Candidates are entitled to designate one (1) watcher to be present at the tallying of ballots. Watchers must be members of NYMAPU.

• **Voter Eligibility:** All members of record will be mailed ballots. Only the ballots of members in good standing as of the date of the ballot count will be tallied. Good standing for voter eligibility is defined as being current in dues and meeting the other eligibility requirements on Article 3 of the NYMAPU Constitution.

Only members employed in or at:
• A Bronx installation shall be eligible to be nominated for the position of Director or Assistant Director of the Bronx.
• The Dominick V. Daniels facility in Kearny, New Jersey shall be eligible to be nominated for the position of Director or Assistant Director of the Dominick V. Daniels facility.
• The Network Distribution Center in Jersey City, New Jersey shall be eligible to be nominated for the position of Director or Assistant Director of the Network Distribution Center.
• The Morgan P&DC facility shall be eligible to be nominated for the position of Director or Assistant Director of Morgan P&DC facility.

• **Election Notices:** Election Notices will be posted on all union bulletin boards in all postal facilities no later than March 23, 2015 and in the March 2015 edition of The Union Mail.

• **Ballot Preparations and Mailing:** The Election Committee and the AAA will design the official ballot and comprehensive voting instructions. The printing, acquisition, custody, control and distribution of ballots will be under the supervision of the Election Committee and the AAA. In addition to the ballot, the AAA will arrange ballot return envelopes pre-addressed to the official location for return of the ballots.

No later than March 30, 2015 ballot packages will be mailed to all members. Each member will be mailed: Instruction on voting and ballot return, one unmarked ballot, one (1) small envelope marked "Secret Ballot Envelope," and one larger return envelope addressed to the AAA with member identification (signature required for membership verification only).

Ballots will be returned to the offices of the AAA and safeguarded.

Undeliverable ballots returned to the AAA will be kept separate. The AAA will regularly inform the Election Committee of the undeliverable ballots. The Election Committee will make reasonable efforts to find updated addresses for these members so that AAA can mail them clearly identified duplicate ballots. If both an original ballot and a duplicate ballot are received for same member, only the original ballot will be counted.

No earlier than seven (7) days after the mailing of the ballots or no later than five (5) days before the ballots are due, any member who has not received a ballot may request that AAA mail a duplicate ballot to him/her. All requests for duplicate ballots either by mail or phone must be sent directly to the address below or requested by calling the number listed:

American Arbitration Association (AAA)
120 Broadway
New York, NY 10271-6708
Phone (212) 484-4136

• **Collection and Tally of Ballots:** All ballots must be received on or before the commencing of the vote count.
The Election Committee will observe the verification of eligibility conducted by the AAA. Any candidate or watcher may attend and observe. The Union will provide AAA with its most current eligibility list. For a ballot to be counted, the member must be in good standing at the time of verification. All ballots received from members declared ineligible to vote will be separated from the ballots of eligible members and will be considered challenged ballots, and the reason for the challenge will be noted.

The AAA will safeguard all challenged ballots.

After the verification of eligibility is completed, the AAA will tally ballots under the supervision of the Election Committee. Only AAA personnel will physically handle the ballots. Candidates or watchers will be allowed to observe the counting process. No candidates or watchers will be allowed in the ballot room with a coat, folder and/or bags(s) of any sort.
Write-in votes will not be counted. Candidates who receive the greatest number (plurality) of votes cast will be declared elected.

• **Publication of Election Rules:** The Union will publish the results of the election in the Union Mail and post them on Union Bulletin boards.

• **Preservation of Election Records:** The Union will preserve the election records for one (1) year.

• **Election Protests:** Any member who feels aggrieved in connection with the conduct of the election shall file his or her protest with the Election Committee. Such protest(s) must be in writing, setting forth the specific facts, signed by the protestor, and addressed to the Election Committee within seventy-two (72) hours after the cause of protest has arisen. Appeals from an adverse decision of the Election Committee may be further appealed as per Article 12, Sections 8 and 9 of American Postal Workers Union (APWU) Constitution & By-laws.

• **Installation of Officers:** Newly elected officers will be installed at the next regular union meeting after the Election Committee Chair has certified the election.

The above rules are not all inclusive. The NYMAPU Election Committee, as needed, may issue additional election rules or clarifications during the nomination and election period.

ISSUED BY THE NYMAPU ELECTION COMMITTEE:

William Bachmann, Chairperson
Eleanor Bailey, Secretary
Dolores Young
William Pinedo
Gaetana Dunn

APWU files Labor Board charge on cyber attack

By Flo Summergrad

On November 10, 2014, postal employees were hit with the news that cyberhacking had compromised the privacy of employees' personal and employment information. This was revealed to employees through stand-up talks, videos, and letters to each person's home, with an apology from the Post Master General and an offer of a year of free credit monitoring.

The potential negative results of the computer hacking are of deep concern. But equally disturbing is the Postal Service's unilateral handling of the incident. The cause, breadth, and nature of the security breach have not been revealed and the USPS failed in its obligation to bargain with the unions as to how its effects on employees should be addressed.

Top postal management had been aware of this data breach for months, but only informed the leadership of the postal Unions minutes before making it public knowledge.

APWU national President Mark Dimondstein said: "Unfortunately, cybercrime is real and effective. But we are outraged that this happened. We do not know at this point whether management did everything in their power to protect our privacy, but they bear the ultimate responsibility.

"While the Postal Service has been aware of the security problems for months, they kept you and your union leadership in the dark.

"I received a phone call Sunday night from Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe about the incident, but it was just a 'courtesy call,' not a discussion with the APWU about how to deal with the problem and its negative consequences to the workforce. On Monday, Nov. 10, the APWU leadership received the same material you received, just minutes prior to the beginning of Stand-Up talks around the country."

Due to this lack of good faith by management, the APWU filed an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Similar charges have been filed against the USPS for its unilateral response to this incident by the sister unions, National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) and the National Rural Letter Carriers (NRLCA).

President Mark Dimondstein is not relying on the Postal Service to ensure our security. Within a week of the first announcement, the Union learned that there were other serious leaks of postal OWCP records exposing medical, bank account and routing information for tens of thousands of employees and retirees. Mark says, "The APWU is committed to protecting the rights of our members and will do whatever is necessary to make sure our members are protected and made whole for any damages suffered as a result of the security breach–now and in the future."

Biggest Walmart protests ever

By Flo Summergrad

For years, organized labor sought to protect the wage and benefit standards of union contracts for its members, while ignoring the huge numbers of unorganized workers who work for low pay with no regular hours. Instead of everyone's conditions improving, the standard of living of all labor was being eroded. More and more workers were being forced into low paid jobs. This downgrading of wages and benefits has come to be called, "the Walmartization of America."

This is because the unfair employment practices of Walmart, the world's largest private employer, are becoming the norm. The name "Walmart" is now synonymous with the exploitation of workers.

But the tables are turning. Under the slogan, "Low Pay is Not Okay," courageous Walmart workers have been risking their jobs to stand up and expose the company. For the past several years they have used

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TOWARD THE 2015 CONTRACT:

Jonathan Smith serving on National Rank & File Bargaining Advisory Committee

By Flo Summergrad

The current Collective Bargaining Agreement expires on May 20, 2015. APWU officers are preparing for the February, 2015, Contract negotiations, guided by the decisions of the 2014 National Convention in July.

The National Negotiating Team has full authority to negotiate the terms of a new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). As part of the democratic process, our union has a 14-member Rank and File Bargaining Advisory Committee which provides input to the negotiating team. This Rank and File Committee must approve any tentative agreement before it can be sent to APWU members for a ratification vote.

Rank and File Bargaining Advisory Committee at work (with Executive VP Debby Szeredy observing).

We are proud that our own NY Metro Area Postal Union President, Jonathan Smith, has been selected as part of this vital committee. Jon's ability to see the big picture, along with his practical knowledge of applying the CBA language, will make him a tremendous asset to the Rank and File Bargaining Advisory Committee. We can be confident that he will fully represent the concerns and interests of NYMAPU members and all postal workers.

The hard work has already begun. The Committee's first meeting was held on December 8/9, 2014, in Washington, DC with reports from the national officers. Chairperson Bob Johnson of the Greater Connecticut Local reported that: "The committee listened intently and questioned officers closely. . . We asked about the officers' goals for negotiations and gave feedback based on our knowledge of what's happening in the field."

Members will be able to follow the status of negotiations on the APWU and NYMAPU websites, through email blasts, and in the Union Mail. This is an important time to attend union meetings to hear reports and get questions answered.

Black Lives Matter!

While we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday this month, APWU officers are linking the labor and civil rights struggles by joining national protests demanding justice for Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Akai Gurley, and others whose lives were cut short by police action. All black, male, unarmed. Failure of the justice system to even indict the officers for trial has spurred a social movement across the country. The ACLU calls on the US Justice Department to investigate "an appalling national pattern where police officers use excessive and sometimes fatal force against people of color and are frequently not held responsible."

Photo by Bernadette Evangelist

APWU at the "Justice for All" March in Washington, DC

CALENDAR

Wednesday, January 21
5:30 pm
General Membership Meeting
Hotel Pennsylvania
401 Seventh Avenue (between 32and 33 Streets)
Paris/Zurich Room, 6th Floor

January
Don't Buy Staples! Rallies
will be scheduled throughout our area in New York and New Jersey.
Keep your eyes out for emails, Flashes, or call the Union office for times and locations.

Call Kevin Walsh 212-563-7553 ext.105 with any ideas for a rally at a Staples near you.

APWU LOCAL 10 BLDG. CORP

Beginning Balance as of 11/01/2014	$420,643.99
TOTAL REVENUE	$100,350.75
Total Operating Expenses 11/2014	$ 56,796.89
Capital Improvement Cash Acct. Funding	$ 9,090.00
Deferred Leasing Commissions	$ 28,556.38
TOTAL NET INCOME	$ 43,553.87
Closing Balance as of 11/30/2014	$426,551.48

Biggest Walmart protests ever

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the day after Thanksgiving–the biggest retail shopping day of the year–to hold protests and inform the public.

The Walmart owners, the Walton family, are obscenely rich. They have more wealth in their own pockets than 43% of Americans combined. Walmart's workers make so little that they depend on public programs, like food stamps and Medicaid, for survival. While many feel they are getting bargains by shopping at Walmart, they're not. It costs taxpayers an estimated $6.2 billion a year in public assistance for Walmart employees. Meanwhile Walmart made $16 billion in profits last year!

Unions Stand Up with Walmart Workers

In recent years, organized labor has recognized that all workers are brought down by Walmart conditions. Unions have encouraged their members to show solidarity with the Walmart protests. CNN Money specifically named supporting unions as the United Food & Commercial Workers Union, the American Federation of Teachers, and our own American Postal Workers Union!

NY Metro joins Walmart workers' struggle.

Photo by Dave Lipmann

The APWU news reported that "on the day after Thanksgiving, thousands of Walmart employees across the nation protested low wages, inadequate working conditions, and illegal practices that prevent workers from joining a union." There were sit-ins, pray-ins, fasts, picketing, and walk-outs from coast to coast–Los Angeles, Washington DC, Chicago and many others.

Of the 1,600 Black Friday protests around the country, one of the largest was at Walmart in North Bergen, NJ. Hundreds of workers rallied, demanding the right to dignity and a living wage on the job. A spirited group of our NY Metro Area Postal Union members carried our banner, demonstrating that we stand with Walmart workers in their fight for justice.

New York Metro Area Local, APWU
350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10001
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Periodicals class
POSTAGE PAID
at New York, NY

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY: January 19, 2015

"Black and Hispanic youth are being killed at a disproportionate rate by police. That is not an opinion, that's a fact. And this is not a Ferguson fact, this is a nationwide fact." – **Jonathan Smith**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
September 21, 1963