



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

1300 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Initiate National Dispute

March 27, 2015

Tony D. McKinnon, Sr.
Director
Industrial Relations
1300 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202-842-4273 (Office)
202-331-0992 (Fax)

Sent Via Facsimile First Class Mail

Mr. Doug Tulino
Vice President, Labor Relations
U.S. Postal Service, Room 9014
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, D.C. 20260

National Executive Board

Mark Dimondstein
President

Debby Szeredy
Executive Vice President

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Director, Industrial Relations

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Coordinator, Eastern Region

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Coordinator, Northeast Region

Kenneth L. Beasley
Coordinator, Southern Region

Omar M. Gonzalez
Coordinator, Western Region

Re: APWU No. HQTC20150333 – Elimination of SONIKS

Dear Mr. Tulino:

In accordance with the provisions of Article 15, Sections 2 and 4, of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, the American Postal Workers Union is initiating a Step 4 dispute.

The issues and facts involved in this dispute are as follows:

In a letter dated February 20, 2015, the USPS notified APWU President Mark Dimondstein of their intention to eliminate the Specialized Operations Networking Integrated Keyboard System (SONIKS) after March 31, 2015.

In addition, the Postal Service stated they intend to eliminate scheme qualifications on Clerk Craft bid duty assignments after March 7, 2015. The USPS stated that the notification was "a matter of general interest."

The APWU takes the position that the notification dated February 20, 2015 is a unilateral action in violation of the 2010-2015 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Because the letter stated there would be a complete elimination of schemes, this is a unilateral change that violates the CBA under the provisions of Article 19. There are numerous standard position descriptions in the Clerk Craft that include scheme requirements in their qualification standard, which are covered under BQnet (handbooks and manuals). A change of the qualification requirement would require an Article 19 notice and would not be a notice of general interest.

The parties have historically accepted the fact that when a clerk works a scheme for thirty (30) hours per accounting period, schemes are required.

Mr. Doug Tulino
March 27, 2015
Page 2

As late as March 18, 2015, the USPS filed an National dispute USPS No. Q10C-4Q-C 15104590, regarding interpretive review K10C4KC14109006 taking the position as follows:

LSSA duty assignments, which *include scheme requirements* and were grandfathered into the LSSA positions established under the 2010 agreement, may *include scheme requirements* once the incumbent clerk vacates the duty assignment.

The above USPS HQ's stated position supports the union's position that the unilateral removal of scheme requirements is improper.

As remedy, the union requests that the USPS rescind the notification letter dated February 20, 2015 and make the Clerk Craft whole for all violations that occur as a result of this action and/or subsequent actions related to this action.

Please contact Case Officer Lamont Brooks at (202-842-4220) to discuss this dispute at a mutually scheduled time.

Sincerely,



Tony D. McKinnon, Sr., Director
Industrial Relations

APWU #: HQTC20150333

Dispute Date: 3/27/2015

Case Officer: Lamont Brooks

Contract Article(s): ;

cc Resident Officers

:

File

Transmission Report

Date/Time 03-27-2015 19:17:56 Transmit Header Text
 Local ID 1 2028428517 Local Name 1 5th Flr APWU

This document : Confirmed
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Re: APWU No. HOTC20150333 – Elimination of SONIKS

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Abbreviations:

HS: Host send	PL: Polled local	MP: Mailbox print	CP: Completed	TS: Terminated by system
HR: Host receive	PR: Polled remote	RP: Report	FA: Fail	G3: Group 3
WS: Waiting send	MS: Mailbox save	FF: Fax Forward	TU: Terminated by user	EC: Error Correct