



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

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APWU NDRC Dispute – National Jurisdictional Determination on the High Output Package Sorter (HOPS)

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Representative United States Postal Service
Dir. Labor Relations – APWU Contract
Admin 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

Sent First Class Mail and Certified Mail:

Mr. Tom Ruther, NDRC
Representative NPMHU
815 16TH Street, NW
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Ms. Richardson and Mr. Ruther:

Subject: CRAFT JURISDICTION ON THE HIGH OUTPUT PACKAGE SORTER (HOPS)

The American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO submits the following dispute to the National Dispute Resolution Committee. By letter dated August 18, 2023, the Postal Service has advised the APWU, it was assigning the craft jurisdiction of the work to be performed on the High Output Package Sorter (HOPS) to the Mail Handler Craft, functions 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6. The Clerk Craft was assigned function 4.

The APWU believes the issue to be: Is the USPS's decision to assign work performed on the HOPS machine in violation of the National Agreement, RI-399 and the historical application of jurisdictional rules of the parties? If so, what is the remedy?

The APWU maintains the HOPS is involved in mail processing and/or the distribution of mail and is the work of the Clerk Craft. All mail processing and/or distribution of mail on automated equipment is the work of the Clerk Craft.

In addition, the wage level of the position assigned to operate this machine (whether an existing position description or one which is newly created under Article 1, Section 5) is not a proper issue for resolution by the NDRC.

The American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO initiates this national dispute over the application of the Memorandum of Understanding between and among the United States Postal Service, the National Postal Mail Handler Union, and the American Postal Workers Union re: Update of Regional Instruction (RI) 399 Procedures. In accordance with the Update MOU and the 1992 Dispute Resolution Process, the APWU seeks the NDRC and, if necessary, an arbitrator's final and binding determination on the national issue set out in this dispute. This dispute addresses the national jurisdictional determination on the HOPS.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Pallas-Barber". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lynn Pallas-Barber
Assistant Director, Clerk Division

LPB/wh/opeiu#2/afl-cio