

# FYI

#### NPMHU LOCAL 321 March 2025

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## Elections Have Consequences: The Attack on Federal Workers and the Postal Service

Brothers and Sisters,

Elections are more than just a political contest; they are a battle for our rights, our livelihoods, and our democracy. The current administration has wasted no time launching an all-out assault on our freedoms, our economy, and the very foundations of the institutions that protect us. If you ever needed proof that elections have consequences, just look at what's happening right now.

#### **Cutting Federal Jobs and Benefits**

One of the first things this administration has done is propose drastic cuts to federal jobs, aiming to slash the workforce under the guise of "efficiency." But we know what that really means—eliminating hardworking men and women who keep this country running. Less staffing means more delays, overworked employees, and a lower quality of service for the American people. And let's not forget the attacks on our pay and benefits, with threats to reduce retirement security and weaken job protections. Only to allocate more wealth for billionaires

#### **Attacking Free Speech and Union Rights**

This administration is waging an all-out assault on free speech, workers' rights, and the very foundations of democracy. Civil rights attorneys and law firms that challenge its policies are being targeted, labor union contracts are under attack, and the press is facing unprecedented government intimidation. Federal workers are being silenced, threatened with retaliation for speaking out, and subjected to unfair labor practices due to service cuts. Efforts to dismantle collective bargaining rights strike at the heart of our ability to fight for fair wages, benefits, and job security. Make no mistake—weakening our unions means weakening our voice.

## The Ongoing Assault on the U.S. Postal Service

The U.S. Postal Service has long been a cornerstone of American society, ensuring that every community—urban and rural alike—receives essential mail, prescriptions, and packages. But once again, we find ourselves fighting against those who seek to dismantle, privatize, and sell off this vital public service to the highest bidder.

This administration is now escalating its attacks, discussing an unprecedented hostile takeover of the Postal Service. Their plan? Fire the entire Board of Governors, strip away USPS's independence, and place it under the control of the Department of Commerce—a move designed to fast-track its privatization and hand it over to their billionaire allies. Once in their hands, the Postal Service will be carved up and sold off piece by piece, prioritizing profits over people and leaving millions of Americans—especially in rural areas—without affordable and reliable mail service.

Let's be clear: This isn't just about policy changes; this is a direct assault on the livelihoods of dedicated postal workers and the communities they serve. USPS employees have kept this country running through economic crises, pandemics, and natural disasters, yet this administration is

repaying their service by trying to strip them of their jobs and benefits.

We've fought off privatization schemes before, and we will fight again. The American people overwhelmingly support a strong, public Postal Service—not one controlled by corporate interests looking to profit at our expense. Now more than ever, we must stand together to protect our jobs, our rights, and the future of the USPS.

#### What Can We Do?

We cannot afford to sit back and let this happen. Now, more than ever, we must be engaged in the political process. Here's what you can do:

- **Stay informed** Pay attention to policies that affect our jobs and rights.
- Contact your representatives Demand that they protect federal workers and the USPS.
- Support pro-labor candidates We need leaders who will fight for workers, not against them.
- Mobilize and organize Strengthen our union by getting involved and encouraging others to do the same.

Elections have consequences, and we are seeing them play out in real time. But we are not powerless. When we stand together, our collective voice is stronger than any administration looking to tear us down.

Stay strong, stay involved, and let's fight for our future.

#### <u>USPS Announces Expansion of Sorting</u> <u>and Distribution Centers (S&DCs) from</u> <u>2025 to 2027</u>

The Postal Service has issued updated information regarding the continued establishment of Sorting and Distribution Centers (S&DCs) as part of its ongoing network modernization efforts.

According to USPS, these facilities are intended to streamline mail transportation, reduce operational costs, and enhance service offerings for postal customers.

By standardizing processes and consolidating certain operations, the Postal Service claims that S&DCs will create more efficient workflows and improve working conditions for employees.

As part of this initiative, USPS has identified several locations for conversion to S&DCs in 2025, including the Fort Collins Mail Processing Facility in Colorado.

While the Postal Service has stated that it does not currently plan to relocate operations from other spoke sites, it has also indicated that future studies may lead to additional changes such as new work, new or consolidated facilities, or operational changes.

Local 321 is closely monitoring these developments and plans to observe operations at the Fort Collins facility, should the Postal Service implement operational changes, introduce new work, or consolidate additional facilities into Fort Collins.

The mail handlers union reserve the rights to investigate and to determine whether these changes result in at least a four or more hours of mail handlers duties per tour at the facility.

It is important to mention that mail handlers once had a vibrant existence in that facility and

had an existing inventories before the mail handlers were excessed to Denver. I will keep you abreast on this matter.

#### JEREMY BARRIAULT MEMORI-AL 2025/2026 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

This is a friendly reminder for those who may be procrastinating on applying for the Jeremy Barriault Memorial Scholarship. The deadline to submit your application is quickly approaching. Please ensure your application is submitted by 10:00 AM on April 25, 2025. All applications must be sent to:

NPMHU-Local 321 Scholarship Committee PO BOX 11909 Denver, CO 80211.

## Supervisor Falsify Mail Handlers Clock Rings

Our work at the U.S. Postal Service is demanding, and every hour we put in matters—not just for our paychecks, but for our rights as union members. However, we are seeing an alarming trend in some facilities where management is **falsifying employee clock rings**—removing hours worked, altering leave requests, or incorrectly coding time without employee consent. This is not just an attack on individual Mail Handler—it's an attack on all of us, and our contracts

These actions constitute a direct violation of:

**ELM Section 665.15** – Prohibiting false statements or misrepresentations of time records.

**Handbook F-21, Section 142.3** – Requiring accurate, documented modifications to clock rings.

**ELM 510** – Prohibiting unauthorized changes to employee leave records.

**The National Agreement** – Violating fair labor practices regarding pay and timekeeping. Per art 5, 17, and 19.

Local 321 is actively investigating these reports, and we will not tolerate any attempts to cheat mail handlers out of their hard-earned wages. The falsification of time records is **illegal**, **unethical**, **and a direct violation of our contract**. If management is caught engaging in these practices, we will demand full restoration of wages and push for disciplinary action against those responsible.

If you or a coworker suspect timecard falsification, **speak up!** Contact your stewards immediately.

In Union Solidarity

### Tony Wilson

NPMHU-Local 321 President

With confidence, you have mon before you have started Marcus Garvey