

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20260-0001

Mr. Francis J. Conners SEP 6 1985 Vice President National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO 100 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001-2197

Dear Mr. Conners:

Recently you and Dave Noble met with Frank Dyer and I in prearbitration discussion of HlN-5D-C 6601, Portland, Oregon. The question in this grievance is whether management violated Article 41 by assigning reserve carriers to available fulltime craft duty assignments rather than honor the request of part-time flexible carriers for these temporary assigments of 5 days or more.

It was mutually agreed that management may assign a reserve carrier to a temporary assignment of 5 days or more rather than honor the request of a part-time flexible provided it can be demonstrated that honoring the opt would result in insufficient work for the full-time regular.

With this understanding, it was mutually agreed that the remaining issues present in that discussion did not warrant arbitration at the national level. The case is being remanded to the regional level of arbitration with the clear agreement between the parties that it is to be arbitrated at the regional level. This agreement does not preclude either party, once the arbitration has begun, from exercising its rights to refer the case to Step 4 should national interpretive issues arise.

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter acknowledging your agreement to remand this case, withdrawing HIN-5D-C 6601 from the national pending arbitration listing.

Sincerely,

Office of Grievance and Arbitration

National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO