



EMPLOYEE AND LABOR RELATIONS GROUP  
Washington, DC 20260

November 17, 1972

Mr. Tony R. Huerta  
Director of Appeals  
National Association of Letter  
Carriers, AFL-CIO  
100 Indiana Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: R. D. Bratcher  
Shawnee, Mission, Kansas  
N-C-672 (50)

Dear Mr. Huerta:

On August 1, 1972, we met with you to discuss the above captioned grievance.

\* The policy of the US Postal Service on the issue raised in this grievance is as follows:

On park and loop patten routes, the carrier satchel will be used to carry sufficient amounts of mail for a loop or swing, to protect the mail and for collection mail. Sections 252 and 262.2 M-41 Methods Handbook, City Carrier's Instruction Handbook, stipulate that registered articles must be carried in the pocket of the satchel. Handling of mail loose in the hand or under the arm by carriers on these routes creates a potential condition for losses and must not be permitted. In addition, failure to use a satchel on a park and loop route reduces the territory which can be served from each vehicle stop and minimizes the effectiveness of motorization.

The only exception whereby a motorized carrier may make deliveries without a satchel is a dismount to make a limited (one or two) number of deliveries from a single stop. In these few cases, registered articles may be left in the vehicle provided it is in full view and can be quickly reached if a theft is attempted. In such cases, the letter carrier gives the same degree of protection on his route as a parcel post carrier delivering registered articles.

Sincerely,



Timothy J. Sullivan  
Labor Relations Division  
Employee and Labor Relations Group