

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

February 4, 1983

Mr. Halline Overby Assistant Secretary-Treasurer National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO 100 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001

> Re: M. Bottorff Miami, FL 33152 H1N-3W-C 11184

Dear Mr. Overby:

On December 20, 1982, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The matters presented as well as the applicable contractual provisions have been reviewed and given careful consideration.

We mutually agreed to resolve this grievance with the following memorandum of understanding negotiated at the national level.

The parties agree to recognize the following as nationallyestablished policy regarding a steward's request to leave the work area while on-the-clock to interview a non-postal witness:

In accordance with Article 17 of the 1981 National Agreement, a steward's request to leave his/her work area to investigate a grievance, shall not be unreasonable denied. Subsequent to determining that a non-postal witness possesses relevant information and/or knowledge directly related to the instant dispute under investigation, a steward may be allowed a reasonable amount of time on-the-clock, to interview such witness, even if the interview is conducted away from the postal facility. However, each request to interview witnesses off postal premises must be reasonable and viewed on a case-by-case basis. For example, it is not unreasonable for a supervisor and/or steward to telephone the

prospective witness to ascertain availability and willingness to be interviewed and, if willing, to establish a convenient time and locale.

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this decision as your acknowledgment of agreement to resolve this case.

The time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Eugene

Labor Relations Department

Halline Overby

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer National Association of Letter

Carriers, AFL-CIO