



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
Labor Relations Department  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Washington, DC 20260-4100

Mr. Lawrence G. Hutchins  
Vice President  
National Association of  
Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO  
100 Indiana Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001-2197

Re: Class Action  
Massillon, OH 44646  
H7N-2K-C 7670

Dear Mr. Hutchins:

On November 4, 1988, a meeting was held with the NALC Director of City Delivery, Brian Farris, to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether the grievants were improperly caused to use sick leave and incur monetary expenses when management directed them to seek immediate medical treatment for their high blood pressure.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agreed that no national interpretive issue is fairly presented in this case. This matter requires application of Postal Bulletin 21526, dated August 8, 1985, and the EL-806, Health and Medical Service Handbook, Part 155.3, Hypertension, which states, in part, that . . . . Readings may vary with age/sex . . . so must be evaluated by the medical officer." Therefore, while non-medical personnel may administer blood pressure tests, only the medical officer is authorized to make determinations concerning an employee's fitness-for-duty.

Accordingly, the grievance is sustained and the file returned to the parties at Step 3 for computation of monetary remedy and restoration of the grievant's sick leave.

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

Mr. Lawrence G. Hutchins


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Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,



Arthur S. Wilkinson  
Grievance & Arbitration  
Division



Lawrence G. Hutchins  
Vice President  
National Association of Letter  
Carriers, AFL-CIO

(Date) 3/7/89

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