



M-00951

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

February 24, 1982

Mr. Joseph H. Johnson, Jr.
Director, City Delivery
National Association of Letter
Carriers, AFL-CIO
100 Indiana Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20001

Dear Mr. Johnson:

You recently posed a question as to the U. S. Postal Service's policy relative to left-handed individuals being required to cease left-handed distribution.


The Western Region has recently settled grievances concerning this issue, with another craft, as follows:

"As you know, we encourage right handed distribution. However, for those employees who have historically distributed left handed, there is no prohibition against continuing in such a manner provided such employees can orient mail properly in the case and perform assigned duties efficiently."

We are urging all other regions to consider this type language, plus a common sense approach in application, irrespective of craft, to current and future disputes of this nature.

I trust that this will satisfy your inquiry.

Sincerely,


William E. Henry, Jr.
Director
Office of Grievance
and Arbitration
Labor Relations Department