

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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Washington, DC 20260

DATE:

OUR REF: LR410:PAHeath:bm:20260-4126

SUBJECT: Grievance Processing

TO: Regional Managers  
Labor Relations


National Business Agents

The following clarifies the understanding of the national parties regarding duplicative grievances:


The Step 4 representatives agree that where grievances involve the same interpretive issue, one representative grievance will be advanced to Step 4 and the remaining grievances will be held at Step 3 pending a decision on the representative grievance. When a decision is reached, that decision will apply to the other grievances which were held by the parties at Step 3 involving the same issue.

Where grievances involve the same interpretive issue but in the judgment of either of the parties also present other issues, the parties will hold those grievances at Step 3. When the interpretive issue has been decided, it will apply to the interpretive issue in these grievances and the parties will continue processing those grievances consistent with Article 15.

The intent of this agreement is to ensure that the minimum number of cases on each interpretive issue is advanced to Step 4. We agree that the national interpretive decision agreed to at Step 4 or awarded in national arbitration is binding on those cases held at Step 3 for disposition of the representative case. We further agree that that decision is binding for that issue in cases which are held at Step 3 as outlined in paragraph 2 above.

  
Stephen W. Furgeson  
General Manager  
Grievance and Arbitration  
Division

Date 5/7/92

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

Date 5/8/92