M-1296

LABOR RELATIONS



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CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION UNIT N.A.L.C. WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. Vincent R. Sombrotto President National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO 100 Indiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001-2197

> Re: F90N-4F-C 95076283 PACHECO, J SAN BRUNO, CA 94066-9998

Dear Mr. Sombrotto:

On August 14 and 22, 1997, I met with your representatives to discuss the abovecaptioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this case is whether management is in violation of the National Agreement when the grievant was not converted to full-time status. Specifically, is a PTF who has opted to holddown a vacant X-Route eligible for conversion to regular under the provisions of Article 7.3.C.?

During our discussions, the parties agreed that the Questions and Answers supplement to Building Our Future by Working Together, Q & A 30 and Q & A 79 adequately address this issue as follows:

- Q-30 If we get together locally and X-Routes are created, will PTFs be allowed to make regular on these routes?
- A X-Routes are assignments held pending reversion and normally should not be considered as vacancies for purposes of PTF conversions.
 However, regular carriers, including recently converted PTFs may bid on these assignments.
- Q-79 In question 30, you indicated that X-Routes normally should not be considered as vacancies for purposes of PTF conversions. What if the X-Route will be in operation for an extended period of time?

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A In that circumstance, it would be reasonable for the parties to consider that assignment as an opportunity for PTF conversion.

Accordingly, the parties agreed to remand this case to the parties at Step 3 for application of the above or to be rescheduled for arbitration, if necessary.

Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,

Nora A. Becker Grievance and Arbitration Labor Relations

Vincent R. Sombrotto President National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO

Date: 10/7/97