



RECEIVED

JAN 7 1999

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

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

Re: B94N-4B-C 97024116
Zandi B
Boston, MA 02205-9998

Dear Mr. Sombrotto:

On December 4, 1998 I met with your representative to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether a regular arbitrator is bound by national awards.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agreed that no national interpretive issue is fairly presented in this case.


We further agreed to the following, which is an excerpt from case # HIN-IJ-C 23247;


The whole purpose of the national arbitration scheme is to establish a level of definitive rulings on contract interpretation questions of general applicability. National decisions bind the regional arbitrations, and not the reverse.

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

Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,


Richard A. Murner
Labor Relations Specialist
Grievance and Arbitration


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

Date: 1/13/99