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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 20001-2144

Re: D98N-4D-C 01181768
Class Action
Easley, SC 29640-9998

Dear Mr. Sombrotto:

On September 18, 2001 I met with your representative to discuss the above-referenced grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether the local parties can modify the language contained in Section 436.2 of the Employee and Labor Relations Manual.

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

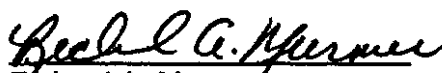
Accordingly, the parties agreed to remand this grievance to the parties at Step 3, for further processing, including arbitration, if appropriate, with the following understanding:


The local parties cannot modify the language contained in Section 436.2 of the Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM).

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

Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,


Richard A. Murmer
Labor Relations Specialist
Labor Relations Policies
and Programs


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

Date: 9-27-01