

UNION REPRESENTATION THE POSTAL INSPECTOR AND YOU

The Weingarten Rights apply to investigative interviews by Postal Inspectors the same as they do to interviews of other Postal managers. That is, if you believe that discipline could be imposed due to the subject of the interview, the employee has the right for steward representation.

In addition, the Miranda Rights apply if there is reason to believe the employee could be charged with committing a criminal act. The famous Miranda warning requires law enforcement officials to provide certain notices when a criminal investigation focuses upon the accused. Many times, Postal inspectors comply with Miranda Rights by requesting that the employee sign PS Form 1067, "Warning and Waiver of Rights".

If you are ever asked to read and sign a Form 1067, you can assume that you are in serious trouble. When the Miranda warning is given to an employee, anything they write or say can be used against them. An informed employee would refuse to sign any waiver or answer any questions before they had the opportunity to speak with an attorney.

The SCRLCA realizes the need for the Postal inspectors and their need to protect postal employees and postal property. This article is not to obstruct the duties of the Postal inspector. Its intent is to define the rights of the Rural Carriers.

The orange card entitled "The Postal Inspector And You" gives you instructions as to what you should do if you are approached by a Postal Inspector. Retain this information and place the orange card in your wallet. If you are ever stopped by a Postal Inspector remain calm and follow the instructions printed on the card.

Remember, under no circumstances should you sign a waiver of your rights or make a statement either written or oral before you have consulted with your attorney or union steward. Make this request by referring to and following the instructions on "The Postal Inspector And You".