

NALC BRANCH 758

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2019

Branch President Report

131.4 Reporting Requirements

131.41 It is your responsibility to verbally inform management when you are of the opinion that you will be unable to case all mail distributed to the route, perform other required duties, and leave on schedule or when you will be unable to complete delivery of all mail.

131.42 Inform management of this well in advance of the scheduled leaving time and not later than immediately following the final receipt of mail. Management will instruct you what to do.

131.43 Complete applicable items on Form 3996, *Carrier-Auxiliary Control*, if overtime or auxiliary assistance is authorized in the office or on the street.

131.44 Report on Form 1571 all mail undelivered — including all mail distributed to the route but not cased and taken out for delivery. Estimate the number of pieces of mail.

131.45 Do not curtail or eliminate any scheduled delivery or collection trip unless authorized by a manager, in which case you must record all facts on Form 1571.

131.46 Before you leave the office, enter on Form 1571 the mail curtailed; when you return, add any mail which was not delivered and which was returned to the office. Follow any special local procedures set up to identify errors and corrective actions for mail returned because it was out of sequence.

Handbook M-41, TL-4, 03-01-98

Updated With Postal Bulletin
Revisions Through April 5, 2001

Phil Bzura
Branch President

Branch Secretary Report

Have you ever had so much to do in so little time? This is a very busy society. We have to take care of our children, work, cook and clean everyday! Our job is very stressful on your mental and physical health. In three (3) days I have slept approximately twelve (12) hours while working in unbearable weather. Don't ever be too busy to attend to your own needs. Your body will let you know it's going to shut down if you don't sit down somewhere. I am not promoting calling off work, but I am suggesting that we need to slow down at work and home. Let's make sure we are around for the long haul. It's okay to tell someone "no" every now and then. Stay strong super people. You have made it through the storm! Just thinking out loud!

Ursa Allen
Branch Secretary

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Health Benefits

By: Harry LaFleur

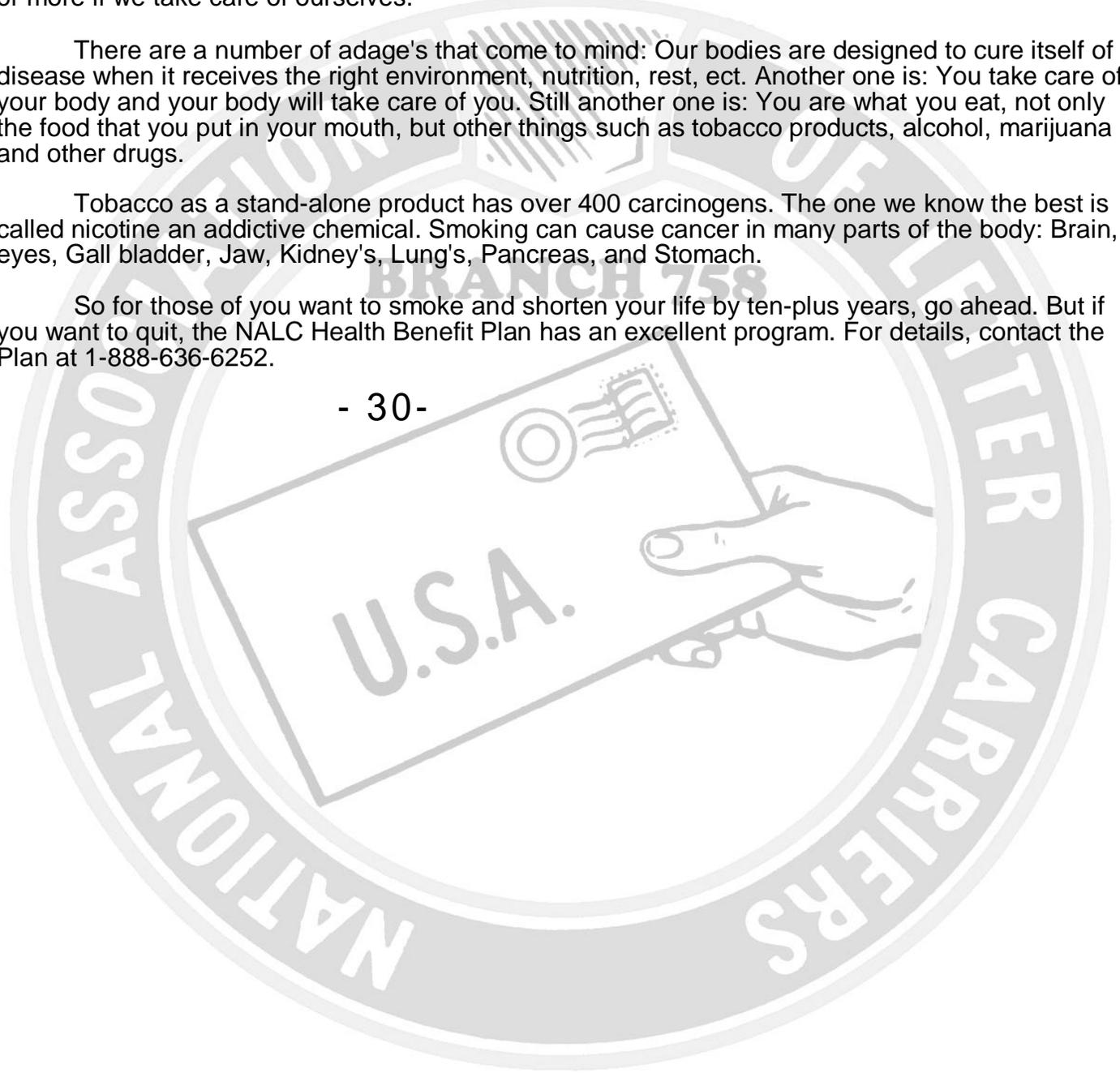
In the Spectrum of time that we are on this planet called Earth is for a snap of our finger. But, in a dimension of time that we understand, that snap of our finger could be a hundred years or more if we take care of ourselves.

There are a number of adage's that come to mind: Our bodies are designed to cure itself of disease when it receives the right environment, nutrition, rest, ect. Another one is: You take care of your body and your body will take care of you. Still another one is: You are what you eat, not only the food that you put in your mouth, but other things such as tobacco products, alcohol, marijuana and other drugs.

Tobacco as a stand-alone product has over 400 carcinogens. The one we know the best is called nicotine an addictive chemical. Smoking can cause cancer in many parts of the body: Brain, eyes, Gall bladder, Jaw, Kidney's, Lung's, Pancreas, and Stomach.

So for those of you want to smoke and shorten your life by ten-plus years, go ahead. But if you want to quit, the NALC Health Benefit Plan has an excellent program. For details, contact the Plan at 1-888-636-6252.

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Unauthorized ... Unreasonable?

This summer management's big focus is on unauthorized overtime. Unauthorized overtime, as the name suggests, is any time on your assignment over 8 hours not approved by management when you are supposed to work an 8 hour day. However, I feel there are times when management is outright unreasonable.

On a morning late in June, Alexis, a supervisor, asked me why on the previous day I worked 9 units (approximately 5 ½ minutes) of unauthorized overtime. Keep in mind on the day in question it was close to 90 degrees outside. I felt she was being quite unreasonable asking me to explain such a short amount of time on such a hot day. Both management and the safety messages on our scanners have told us multiple times to stay hydrated and be safe in the heat and then management wants to turn around and get on our cases when we go 5 minutes into overtime doing exactly what they have told us do to in the past. I know its par for the course at the Post Office but it still feels unfair that management feels they can have it both ways.

My advice to you is to protect yourself. If you know in the morning that you'll be going over 8 hours on your route fill out a P. S. Form 3996 and turn it in to management. If they approve it you're good for the amount of time you requested. If they deny it or you're going to be back later then what was already approved for the day, call at 3:00 and let them know. Put the pressure on them. If they give you a hard time about it, request union rep and let your union steward protect you.

Be safe out there in the summer heat and don't let management intimidate you.

Keith Zelesko
Branch Vice President

Branch Treasury Report

A few observations in July.

I'm sure everyone has noticed management's attempt to make us do FAKE PIVOTS lately. Pivoting is based on Phony DOIS Office Undertime Projections. This is about caseable mail you have that is less than DOIS average. BUT- - -

1. If you have a 3rd bundle set or a set or two in DPS Mail, Street Time should be higher, maybe 30 minutes. Therefore; NO PIVOT! NO PIVOT!
2. If your pivot is 10 minutes across town or you are not familiar with the pivot 30 minutes, may take longer. NO PIVOT! Or its Overtime.
3. Other reasons you may not be able to pivot in 8 hours include factors such as Heat, Rain, Heavy Parcel Count, Etc. NO PIVOT!

Since management is trying to screw us Letter Carriers with Phony Pivots, it is our responsibility to Inform management when we cannot complete pivots within 8 hours. Do this on Form 3996 and/or Verbal and/or call from field usually around 3pm.

Why they have the Nerve to issue pivots when it is 90 degrees is a mystery. We don't have to kill our bodies just to complete FAKE PIVOTS!!

Maurice Marentette
Branch Treasurer

JULY 2019 LABOR / MANAGEMENT Q&A

1. What is the pecking order of supervision for carriers?

Carrier, Supervisor, Postmaster (All SCS are the same)

2. Have adjustments been made to collection box pick-up times as previously promised? If not, why not?

Yes, 10th and Superior's time.

3. Will scanning parcels in the load truck function be added to our route times? If not, why not?

Yes Not sure MRA/ Full Blown

4. Will travel times to routes be changed in the route books to accurately reflect the change since the merger? If not, why not?

Will change on paper.

5. Can the vehicle assigned to route 68 get an additional mounted hazard light for safety purposes? If not, why not?

Working wNMF.

6. As the temperatures reach the highest point of the year when will we be receiving cooling towels? If not, why not?

Cooling towels issued.

7. As the temperatures reach the highest point of the year will you be bringing water out to the carriers on their routes? If not, why not?

Water ordered

8. When is the mailbox in front of the Southgate facility due to be installed?

As soon as it comes in.

9. Do you feel it is fair for your supervisors to question carriers about working 5 minutes of unauthorized overtime on a 90 degree day?

Absolutely, it is their job.

10. When will the fire extinguishers be properly inspected?

Inspected once a monthly and yearly by a company.

11. Safety concerns regarding the loading dock have been voiced. When will this be addressed? *What are the concerns?*

Concrete done, dock well in process

12. When will the Riverview Junkyard Jungle be cleaned up?

After Southgate, not sure of vehicle plan.

13. Our scanners tell us to take heat precautions and yet we are given pivots. How does this make sense?

Precautions.

14. Is it fair that labor has to follow policy and management doesn't?

No dress code policy.

15. Can the hot case be relocated away from the restrooms because of the stench?

No issues.

16. Why does the men's room remain open while the ladies room door is closed?

I'll attempt to make sure to keep the bathroom door closed.

17. Can one of the time clocks be moved to another location to alleviate a safety hazard?

I don't see a safety hazard, No

18. When will carriers be trained on the Promasters?

List of trainee's for Promasters

19. When can we expect to receive Promasters?

Not sure we are getting anymore.

20. Can you make a service talk regarding items placed on top of cases?

Yes.

21. Is management willing to go in half with the union to promote employee bonding activities? This would benefit all involved and improve morale.

No problem.

22. With the CCA conversions, pending attendance removals and retirements are you going to comply with the EL312 regarding forecasting and hire additional CCA's? If not, why not?

Yes, already started the process

23. How many carriers does the current DSSA show we should have on staff?

Will have to get a current DSSA.

24. Why are you failing and /or refusing to properly train carriers on PS Forms 1571, 3821, and 3996 and when will this be corrected?

We are not failing or refusing.

25. Why are you failing /or refusing to comply with Chapter 4 of the M-41 and not allowing carriers P.M. office time to sort errors, repair damaged mails, UBBM forwards etc. and when will this be corrected?

We are not failing or refusing to do this.

26. Why are you failing and/or refusing to have an accountable clerk in the cage when carriers return from the field violating settlements and memorandums (Wecker, Potter and Donahoe) and when will you comply?

We are not failing or refusing to do this.

27. What is the projected start date for the carrier who requested a special route inspection?

To be determined.

28. When will the giant rut be filled in on the Superior exit/entrance as it was reported to the agency many weeks ago?

When the island contract is done.

29. Why are carriers being told to sort the outgoing mail after returning from the field? Which hand book are the instructions in?

Depends on the situation/pickup.

30. When carriers call at 3:00 indicating they cannot make 4:00 why do you authorize us to keep going the claim it is unauthorized?

Still unauthorized/late example

BRANCH OFFICERS

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Vice President - Keith Zelasko (734) 771-7081

Secretary – Ursa Allen

Treasury – Maurice Marentette

Sgt. Of Arms – Joe Zelasko

Health & Benefits Rep.

Harry LaFleur (734) 283-1623

NALC Mutual Benefits Director - Jose Eplin

Newsletter / Website Editor - Jose Eplin

Stewards: Phil Bzura, Daniel Watson,

Sarah Niedowicz

MDA: Keith Zelasko

Trustees:

Chris Williamson, Rhonda Franklin, Karen Balamucki

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NO MEETING FOR JULY OR AUGUST

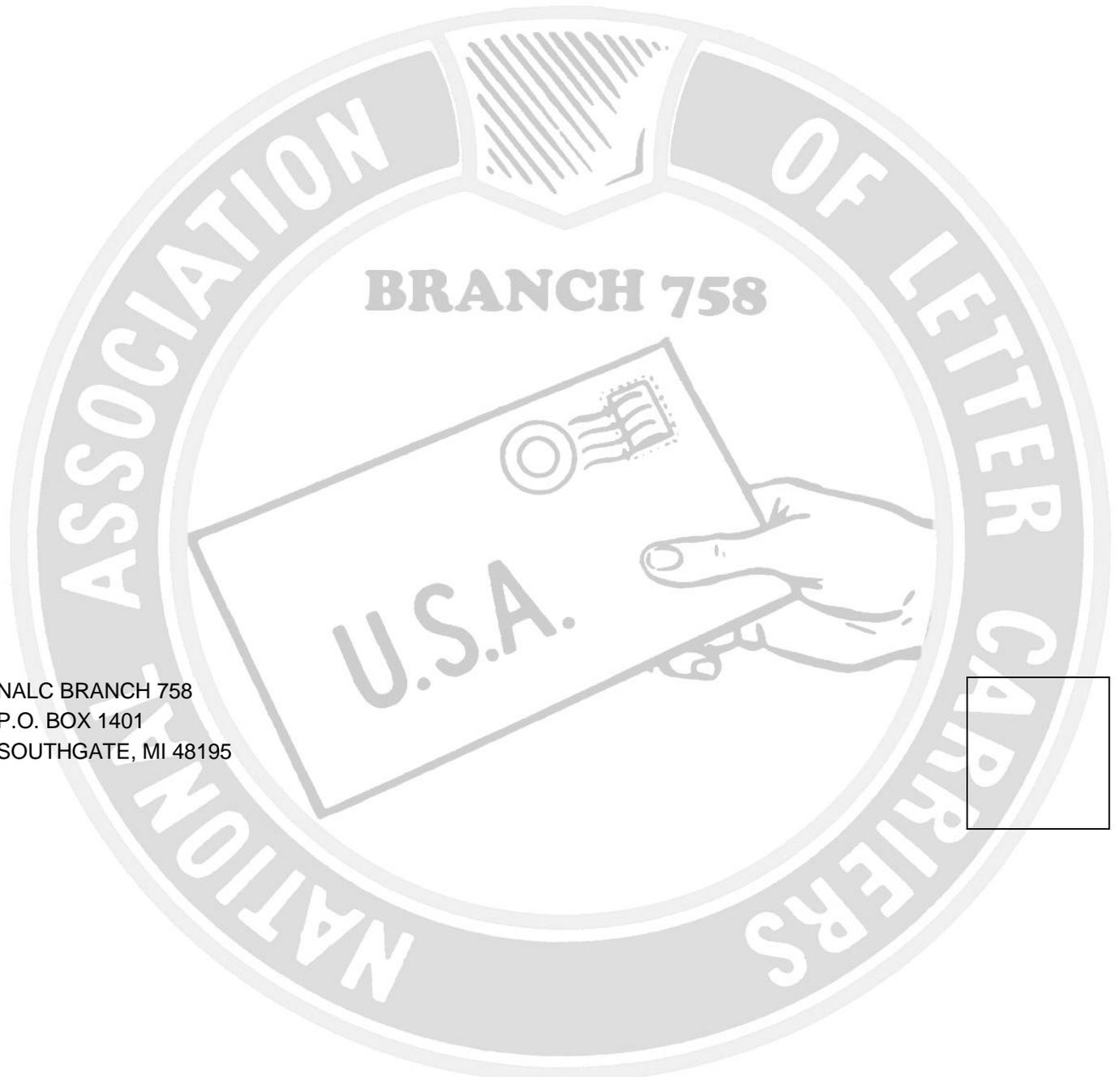
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