



Marc T. Ashmon
Asst. to the President For
Legislative & Political Organizing



## **Our Work is Never Done**

Letter carriers are creatures of habit, but we've proven we can adapt to change even though we are not the biggest fans of it. In fact, one of our biggest strengths is our ability to adapt to change or make the change go away if we determine it isn't working. For instance, Consolidated Casing was a unilateral test that management felt was efficient but did not seem practical. The USPS has the right to make changes to our delivery network, but the NALC has the right to challenge these changes by having NALC observers analyze the data to combat what is contrary to belief. Eventually this process was discontinued, and the test sites were returned to their original structure.

The new flavor of the month is the Sorting & Delivery Centers. Heaven only knows what the future holds on this one. Let's do our due diligence as union activists to vet this process in hopes of the same outcome. Evolving to keep up with the times is imperative, however, we are human beings not robots. We are the eyes and ears of this delivery network therefore we should be consulted/considered about the changes for our future. One delivery process dies, another on the rise - our work is never done.

Letter carriers also represent the membership on the legislative side. As letter carriers we are tied to Congress under the U.S. Constitution. There is a section in the US Constitution that gives Congress full control over letter carriers' wages, benefits, & our future. This is why politics and legislation are such a key component of our lives. Around the country we have 49 State Associations and their sole purpose is to push our legislative agenda. The State President, along with the other members of the Executive Board, nurture the relationship with our U.S. Senators. The 435 Letter Carrier Congressional Liaisons (LCCLs) are educated to engage their Member of Congress (MOC) and make sure their MOC is informed on our issues.

The NALC's legislative army does a great job cultivating and building strong relationships, but make no mistake about it, without our political action committee (PAC) called the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF) we would not have the strength and power we carry with congress. It takes all of us to make the LCPF grow by educating, informing, and making the ask to all our members. It's not about whether you like politics or your political affiliation (Democrat, Republican, Independent). It's About Us protecting our family, our jobs, and making sure the USPS is on good financial footing. Joining the LCPF provides letter carriers with the opportunity to build electoral and legislative power required to ensure decisions that impact their lives are made with their best interests in mind. Simply put, the more money we bring in for the LCPF the better chance we have to pass meaningful legislation.

We literally do heavy lifting when delivering mail. We also do this figuratively by representing the membership contractually and legislatively. We got a big hurdle off our back getting the Postal Reform Act passed which is proof that our efforts are working. One piece of legislation won, plenty more to lobby for - our work is never done.

In Unionism and Solidarity,

Marc T Ashmon, LPO

ashmon@nalc.org cell #: 202-288-7440