

SCRIBE ARTICLE FOR THE OCTOBER 2011 POSTAL RECORD

We are facing unprecedented attacks. We must fight back with everything we've got or be annihilated! The USPS wants Congress to void sections of our contract. The USPS wants to immediately lay off 120,000 Postal Workers and 220,000 by 2015! The USPS would then be successful in reducing mail delivery to three days a week. The USPS also wants to change our retirement guarantees and remove us from the FEHBP. They want us to pay more into our retirement and some new health plan and receive much less! Hell, management cannot even address a 3996 correctly, let alone run a retirement system and Health Plan! The USPS wants to immediately eliminate six day mail delivery, resulting in a loss of about 30,000 City Letter Carrier jobs and a total of 80,000 jobs!

If the above is not bad enough, Issa (R) from California and Ross (R) from Florida have introduced Postal legislation that would give a three member panel veto power over any parts of our contract. This would result in a huge pay cut, loss of COLA's and our grievance/arbitration procedure!

We need to respond to these attacks and counter the disinformation campaign being lodged against us Postal Workers. The USPS has made a profit of 700 million dollars over the last four years when you deduct the 5.5 billion for future retiree health benefits. Another big lie is that the Postal Union's want a tax bail out.

We are in the battle of our lives! The September 27 actions involving all four Postal Unions is a good first step. We can win, but to prevail, we must fight back and unite with other Unions and Workers, the public and other progressive groups. In the fight for our very survival, we must use ANY MEANS NECESSARY TO WIN!!!

IN THE STRUGGLE,

Kenneth Lerch
President NALC 3825