



Mr. Joey Johnson
Director of Labor Relations
National Rural Letter Carriers'
Association
1630 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3467

Re: B10R-4B-C14107584
Class Action
Owego, NY 13827-9998

Dear Joey:

On several occasions, the most recent being June 30, 2015, the parties discussed the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether a rural carrier can provide their own equipment (containers) to deliver mail.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agree that no national interpretive issue is fairly presented in this case. Handbook PO-603, *Rural Carrier Duties and Responsibilities*, section 261.2, states in part "Mail may be placed in boxes, trays, or some other type of container instead of being strapped into bundles". While the Postal Service normally provides equipment for the delivery of mail, rural carriers may choose to provide their own equipment.

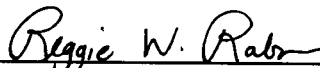
The parties are in agreement that the Postal Service maintains the right to determine if the equipment being provided by rural carriers meets safety requirements and is operationally efficient. However, this decision can be challenged in the grievance/arbitration process based on the individual fact circumstance of each case.

Accordingly, the grievance is remanded to the parties at Step 3 for proper application and continued processing, if necessary.

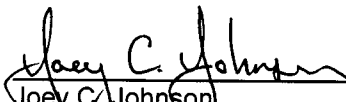
Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to remand this case.

Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,



Reggie W. Rabon
Labor Relations Specialist
Contract Administration (NRLCA)



Joey C. Johnson
Director of Labor Relations
National Rural Letter Carriers'
Association

Date: 7/16/15

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