

M-55



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

October 10, 1980

Mr. Dallas N. Fields
Director of Labor Relations
National Rural Letter Carriers'
Association
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Re: D. Warren, Jr.
Sullivan, IL
R8-C-0095/C8R4AC18375

Dear Mr. Fields:

On October 7, 1980, we met on the above-captioned case at the fourth step of the contractual grievance procedure set forth in the USPS-NRLCA 1978 National Agreement.

The question raised in this grievance involves whether management may establish a firm holdout for a customer on a rural route.

The matters presented by you, as well as the applicable contractual provisions have been reviewed and given careful consideration.

Based on the evidence presented, we find that in accordance with the M-39, Chapter 1, Section 123.d, management has the right to use separations at the distribution case for "direct mail" for customers who receive sufficient quantities of mail to justify this procedure. In addition, Postal Bulletin 21257 on annual/special counts of mail stipulates in III.B.2. that each such direct bundle is to be counted as one parcel.

Accordingly, it is our conclusion that no violation of the USPS-NRLCA 1978 National Agreement occurred and the grievance is denied. This decision may be appealed to arbitration at the National Level in accordance with Article 15.3, Step 4.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William A. Stefl".

William A. Stefl
Labor Relations Department