



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
Labor Relations Department  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Washington, DC 20260-4100

JAN 12 1988

Mr. Steven R. Smith  
Director, Labor Relations  
National Rural Letter  
Carriers' Association  
Suite 100  
1448 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-3403

Re: H4R-4K-C 25989  
Class Action  
Ottuma, IA 52501

Dear Mr. Smith:

Recently you met with Anthony W. DuComb of the Office of Labor Law in prearbitration discussion of the above-referenced grievance.

The issue in this grievance is whether items marked "Do Not Bend" were improperly counted as flats instead of parcels.

During the discussion, it was mutually agreed that the following would represent full and complete settlement of this case:


- 1 The Methods Handbook, M-37, Section 525.12c, shall be revised to read as outlined in the attachment.
2. The U.S. Postal Service will publish the change to the Methods Handbook, M-37, Section 525.12c, outlined in the attachment in the Postal Bulletin as soon as is reasonably possible.

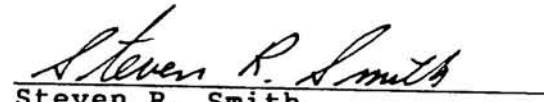
Steve R. Smith

2

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to settle case no. H4R-4K-C and remove it from the pending national arbitration listing.

Sincerely,

  
Stephen W. Furgeson  
General Manager  
Grievance and Arbitration  
Division  
Labor Relations Department

  
Steven R. Smith  
Director, Labor Relations  
National Rural Letter  
Carriers' Association

DATE 19 JAN, 1989

Enclosures

LANGUAGE CHANGE  
[In Brackets]  
RE: Methods Handbook M-37 525.12c

c. Column C-Parcels

- (1) A parcel is any rigid article that exceeds any one of the following dimensions:

- (a) 5 inches in height
- (b) 18 inches in length
- (c) 1 9/16 inches in width

(Example: A rigid article which measures 4 x 15 x 1 3/4 inches would be recorded as a parcel because the 1 3/4 inch thickness exceeds the 1 9/16 inch criteria. However, a rigid article which measures 5 x 18 x 1 9/16 inches would be recorded as a flat because none of the dimensions exceed the stated criteria. This includes articles properly prepared and endorsed "DO NOT FOLD OR BEND" in accordance with DMM 121.42c.)

- (2) In addition any non-rigid article that will not fit in the letter or flat separations (where flat separations are used) with other mail is considered a parcel. [This includes articles that have not been prepared in accordance with DMM 121.42c, even though the mailer has endorsed them "DO NOT FOLD OR BEND". These non-rigid articles should be carried and credited as parcels, provided that they will not fit in the letter or flat case (where flat cases are used) with other mail without damage to the article.]

The remaining language is unchanged.