



Mr. Gus Baffa  
President  
National Rural Letter Carriers'  
Association  
1630 Duke Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Alexandria, VA 23314-3465

Re: Q00R-4Q C 03056531  
Class Action  
Washington, DC 20260-4100

Dear Mr. Baffa:

The parties recently met in pre-arbitration discussion regarding the above referenced case.

The issue in this grievance involves a revision to Section 535.12.p. of Handbook PO-603, *Rural Carrier Duties and Responsibilities*.

The revision identified those mail pieces that should be recorded in Column P, *Registers and Certified Accepted*, during the mail count.

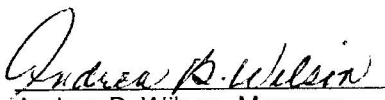
The parties agree that a rural route will be provided two minutes credit under Column P for each registered or certified article accepted by the rural carrier on that route during the mail count, provided the rural carrier completes any one of the following items associated with accepting the registered or certified mail piece:

1. The rural carrier weighs, rates and affixes postage to the article which may involve assistance from a clerk. If the carrier accepts payment for the service from the customer and presents the article to a clerk, who weighs, rates and affixes postage; the carrier is still entitled to credit under Column P.
2. The rural carrier postmarks the receipt, which may involve assistance from a clerk.
3. The rural carrier endorses and issues a receipt via Form 3800 or 3896, which may involve assistance from a clerk.

The parties agree that if the rural carrier does not complete item 1, 2 or 3 above, a rural route will be provided credit under Column N or O, as appropriate, for registered and certified articles collected by the rural carrier on that route during the mail count.

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to settle the above captioned case and remove it from the pending national arbitration listing.

Sincerely,

  
Andrea B. Wilson, Manager  
Contract Administration  
(NRLCA/NPMHU)

Date: 3/20/2003

  
Gus Baffa, President  
National Rural Letter Carriers'  
Association

Date: 3-20-03