



Celebrating 100 Years of  
Representing Postal Workers



# DISPATCH NEWS FLASH

Volume 13 Number 35  
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JUNE 6, 2017  
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## Agreement Reached on Line H Dispute and Q & A

On May 12, 2017, the Postal Service and the Maintenance Division of the APWU signed an agreement resolving a national level dispute in case number Q15T-4Q-C 17274095. The issue in the case is "the determination of compliance with item 6 of the July 9, 2014 TL-5 MOU".

In filing the dispute, the Service posed questions like: "whether when determining compliance with item 6 of the July 9, 2014 TL 5 MOU is the Service required to comply exactly with the frequencies and durations outlined on PS Form 4852 and make deductions as a result of any hours worked over or under those frequencies and durations". Put more simply, can the work hours included in Line H be 'made up'? The Line H Q&A document attached to the settlement resolution resolved that question at number 4. Stating, in particular, "Once the frequency period of the route has lapsed, the route cannot be made up." A listing of just a few more of the items resolved include:

Are any hours worked which are more than the frequencies and durations outlined on PS Form 4852 required to be deducted from the total LDC 38 work hours? This was addressed in Q&A number 6. In a nutshell, the answer to this is YES, those hour worked in LDC 38 in excess of the frequency of work will be deducted from the LDC 38 total.

"Will there be any consideration for vacancies that are not filled immediately?" Answer: No.

**Q&A #4. Throughout the course of a Fiscal Year, can work hours scheduled based on the frequency in the staffing package and included on Line H be 'made up'?**

**Answer: Work that can still be accomplished within the assigned frequency (e.g. an annual route can be performed anytime during the year, a route performed 4 times per year is done once per fiscal quarter, a route performed 12 times per year is to be done no more than once per month, etc.) Once the frequency period of the route has lapsed, the route cannot be made up. There is a 10% variance built in to the compliance requirement under the MOU item 6. Consequently, the legitimate bypassing of routes is already considered.**

Q&A #10 emphasizes that: As required by item 6 of the July 9, 2014 MOU, "the results will be provided to **and discussed with** the Local APWU President or designee."

Q&A #12 identifies and resolves an issue that had occurred in some locations where the supervisor was performing our bargaining unit work when checking-in/out custodians supplies & equipment. Management can make decisions; check that work is/was being done per the procedures and perform observations. We spelled out the check-in/check-out Craft Responsibilities as:

- o Ordering and issuing of equipment and supplies in accordance with established procedures.
- o Receiving of equipment and supplies in accordance with established procedures.
- o Filling of distribution trays
- o Cleaning of equipment

This successful result was due to a team effort on the part of the Maintenance Officers as well as President Dimondstein. For additional information go to:

<http://www.apwu.org/news/web-news-article/maintenance-craft-agreement-usps-resolving-line-h-dispute>