



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

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SEP 13 1988

APWU
CLERK DIVISION

Mr. Cliff J. Guffey
Assistant Director
Clerk Craft Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
1300 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-4107

ARTICLE	7
SECTION	2
SUBJECT	OPERATION
	180-189

SEP 13 1988

Re: Local
Long Beach, CA 90809
H4C-5C-C 45728

Dear Mr. Guffey:

On August 9, 1988, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether the duties of sorting mail in operation 180-189 is a mail handler or clerk craft position.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agreed that no national interpretive issue is fairly presented in this case. During our discussion, we further agreed that the determining factor for craft jurisdiction, is the purpose of the operation. The number of separations is not necessarily the determining factor on whether or not an operation is a distribution or separation. If the work being performed primarily distributes the mail at the opening unit for zones (stations, branches), carrier units, AOs, etc., then the craft assigned should be clerks. In addition, the term "further processing" should not be construed as meaning that any time further processing of mail takes place in a