

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

AUG 4 1983

Mr. Michael Benner Director, SDM Division American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO 817 14th Street, N.W. 20005-3399 Washington, D.C.

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Dear Mr. Benner:

On August 2 you met with Sherry Barber in prearbitration discussion of H1C-5D-C 8540, Tacoma, Washington. question is whether or not the grievant forfeited salary rate protection provided under ELM 421.51 when she bid on a new assignment.

It was mutually agreed to full settlement of this case as follows:

If an employee, while assigned to the lower grade position and still in the protected rate period, voluntarily bids on a position in that same grade, such a bid is not considered a voluntary reduction to a lower salary standing at the employee's request.

Please sign the enclosed copy of this letter acknowledging your agreement with this settlement, withdrawing it from the pending national arbitration listing.

Sincerely,

Director

Office of Grievance and

Arbitration

Labor Relations Department

SDM Division

American Postal Workers

Union, AFL-CIO

Enclosure