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

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

SEP 13 1988

ARTICLE	14
SECTION	
SUBJECT	BIOLOGICAL SPECIMENS

Re: Class Action
Columbia, SC 29201
H4C-2H-C 49046

Dear Mr. Guffey:

On August 12, 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 disposal latex gloves should be issued to window clerks, at the Columbia, SC Post Office.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agreed that no national interpretive issue is fairly presented in this case. It was further agreed that if an employee who accepts a blood sample for mailing from a patron questions whether the sample is properly packaged to meet federal requirements, the employee should seek the advice and direction of his/her supervisor. In addition, this is a local issue suitable for regional determination based upon application of the current memorandum entitled "Handling Biological and Infectious Materials. (copy attached) dated December 29, 1987, to the specific fact circumstances.

Accordingly, we agreed to remand this case to the parties at Step 3 for further processing, including arbitration if necessary.

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to remand this case.