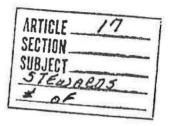


UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20260

Mr. James Connors
Assistant Director
Clerk Craft Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
817 14th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3399



Re: APWU - Local
Billings, MT 59101
H1C-5L-C 25574

Dear Mr. Connors:

On several occasions, the most recent being June 7, 1985, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether management has properly restricted the number of stewards in the Billings Post Office.

The union contends that there should be one steward in each specific work location, that is, Mail Processing, Main Office Window Service, and Computerized Forwarding Section at the Billings Post Office.

It is our position that no national interpretive issue involving the terms and conditions of the National Agreement is fairly presented in this case. However, inasmuch as the union did not agree, the following represents the decision of the Postal Service on the particular fact circumstances involved.

It is the position of the Postal Service that although stewards may be designated to represent employees in specific work locations, the number shall not exceed, but may be less than, the number provided in the formula set forth in Article 17, Section 2 of the National Agreement. Based upon this consideration, the grievance is denied.

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