

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN THE  
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AND  
THE JOINT BARGAINING COMMITTEE  
(American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO)**

The parties agree that no later than ninety (90) days from the effective date of the 1987 National Agreement, Management will issue the following clarifying instructions regarding Operation 110-129 and 180-189 of Regional Instruction 399. The Postal Service will not make any changes in R.I. 399 during the life of this Agreement without the agreement of the Unions.

The following provides additional guidelines to determine the appropriate craft designation and assignment for distribution and separation activities for Operations Numbers 110-129 and 180-189 unit activities.

The current language in Regional Instruction 399 for Operations 110-129 and 180-189 contains instructions to assign clerks to "Distribution of outgoing IPP's, newspapers, rolls, letter or flat bundles, slugs, Special Delivery or Special Handling parcel post."

Additional instructions are contained in the document to assign mail handlers to "Cull/separate mail by type/characteristics and make basic local/out-of-town splits to trays, hampers, gurneys, conveyers, nutting trucks, or other containers" in Operations 110-129 and 180-189.

There has been some confusion as to the distinction between "basic local/out-of-town splits," which is assigned to mail handlers, and distribution, which is assigned to clerks.

The term distribution, as defined in Section 521.2 of the M-32 Handbook, includes a sortation of mail to ADC's, states, sectional centers, cities, foreign countries, official mail, associate offices, stations, branches, carrier routes, holdouts (e.g., firms, addresses, institutions, boxes), box sections, ZIP Codes, uncoded mail, nixie, APO, FPO, or similar separations.

All distribution of mail in Operations 110-129 and 180-189 is the work of the Clerk Craft.

The Unions signatory to this Memorandum of Understanding are not bound by any other agreement or Letter of Intent between the Employer and any other Union.

Date: July 21, 1987