

Central Florida Area Local #1462

American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

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CENTRAL FLORIDA AREA LOCAL UPDATES

Obviously, the Coronavirus is the most pressing issue for all of you and your families at this time, but I have been receiving many inquiries in regards to a few things within the ‘new’ Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) such as: (i) when the Postal Support Employees (PSE’s) will be converted to full-time regular status, (ii) when the new pay raises will be showing up on your bi-weekly paychecks, and (iii) when the retroactive payments will be arriving.

We have just been informed that the USPS Postal Support Employees (PSEs) who have been employed in 125 work-year or larger offices, for more than 2 1/2 years (30 months), will be converted to career status on May 9, 2020, which is the beginning of Pay Period 11.

*“As newly converted career employees, these PSEs will have sixty-days (60) from **May 9, 2020-July 8, 2020**, to make benefit decisions. New career employees may choose new health insurance plans, enroll in the Federal Employee Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) plan, choose how much to contribute to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), where to allocate TSP funds, and other benefits decisions”* The USPS is supposed to send each newly converted employee a ‘benefits’ book with all the necessary forms and instructions for making these very important decisions. The sixty-day limit is a hard limit and **cannot be extended**. Employees are encouraged to begin looking at their new benefits, and not wait until the very end of the 60 days to decide.

Under our new Collective Bargaining Agreement, employees will receive four retroactive pay raises. The current rates went into effect on February 29, 2020, and will be reflected for the first time in earnings for **Pay Period 09-2020. Pay Period 09 begins Saturday, April 11**. Pay checks will be dated for May 1, 2020. Retroactive pay covering the period from September 24, 2018 through April 10, 2020 will follow. *“The Postal Service has yet to confirm a date that employees will receive retroactive pay. Recently passed laws regarding the COVID-19 pandemic providing new and additional benefits to employees require immediate and extensive programming and have delayed the Postal Service’s confirmation of the date.”*

“Employees who worked during the retroactive period will be paid the higher rates due for that work. Workers who transferred, separated, quit, retired, deceased, etc. will be compensated for any time worked when higher rates were due.” The higher rates will be reflected in adjustments to TSP, Retirement, terminal leave payments, and life insurance. Retirees will eventually get any necessary adjustments to annuity payments – including retroactive annuity adjustments

In Solidarity,



President