

American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
Central Florida Area Local, #1462
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September 1, 2017

Don Shandor
Plant Manager
Orlando P&DC

Don:

As President of the Central Florida Area Local, it was brought to my attention that on August 31, 2017, whereby employees and APWU Stewards contacted me regarding a Hazmat concern that occurred in the AMF building at the Orlando P&DC. I contacted you via text and e-mails immediately. I have quite a few questions that I would need answered, and they are as follows:

1. Since it was reported that 'white powder' went airborne at the feeder portion of machine DBCS #2 in the AMF building, why were the employee(s) directly in contact with this mail not quarantined immediately in a room with dedicated HVAC equipment to contain the potential hazard?
2. Why was the building not secured to prevent any entry of arriving personnel; such as airline ground crew employees, Tour 1 incoming management staff and our bargaining unit employees?
3. Why were the other employees in the building not evacuated immediately due to the incident in case the agent was a biological health hazard/threat?
4. Why was the incident not communicated officially to incoming Tour management and employees?
5. Why did the Postal Inspector enter the building without protection in the event that the 'white powder' was a biological agent?
6. Why was, or were the Tour MDO's and a Tour 1 Lead Clerk, at or near the site of the incident during the substance analysis?
7. Was the substance analyzed and by whom?
8. Why was the caution tape not applied around the machine within minutes of the incident, and not approximately one hour or more later as was reported?
9. Why was the exposed employee (PSE) reassigned to another machine in the main building without the employee being cleared to come in vicinity of the other employees?

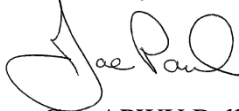


10. Was the mail transported from the VMF facility to the main building without being cleared of any possible contamination?
11. Why were the results of the inspection on the substance not properly/officially communicated to the employees that were in the AMF building where the incident took place?
12. If in fact the 'white powder' was determined to not be a hazard, has it been officially communicated to the employees?
13. What is the protocol for this type of incident? I would like an official copy of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

I look forward to your soon response as this type of incident could occur in the future in our ever-changing world. If you have any questions and/or concerns regarding this please contact me. It is hoped that your office responds back to me as expeditiously as possible so that our employees are made aware.

Please consider this as an official request for information per Article 31 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, which as you know, the APWU should receive the information back within 5 days. I thank you in advance.

Sincerely,



Cc: APWU Bulletin Boards
Stephen Nelson, Director of Safety and Health
Robert McSorley, Vice President

