

Briefs

APWU

THE OAKLAND POSTAL WORKER

FREDRIC JACOBS
Editor

SUSAN ROBISON
Senior Assistant Editor

ROBERT MOORE
Assistant Editor, FO

DERRICK LEE, *Reporter*

JAMES PERRY, *Reporter*

7901 Oakport Street, Suite 2300 ■ Oakland, CA 94621

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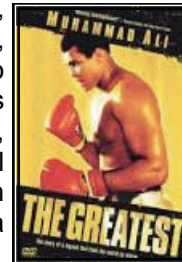
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- Latisha D. Hester
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- Rasheeda Johnson
- Singh Kanwaljit
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- Tse San Kwan

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THE APWU DELIVERS ANOTHER PUNCH

as it moves towards the end of round two and destiny. Arbitration hearings regarding the USPS's attempt to eliminate the PVS in California concluded on Thursday, January 17, 2013. Over seven days of hearings, the APWU called officers, lawyers, an economist, contract experts, a statistician, and craft witnesses to present their case for retaining the motor vehicle service. The USPS expects to receive the Arbitrator's first opinion in the California PVS case by March 4, 2013. All PVS/HCR conversions, nationwide, have been placed on hold until March 4, 2013. USPS lawyers have promised to provide at least seven day's advance notice to APWU lawyers in the event the USPS makes a decision to resume conversions during March 2013.



The case went to arbitration after a dramatic injunction hearing in Federal Court on November 9, 2012. The APWU requested the judicial hearing because they had learned that the USPS planned to begin contracting out runs in San Francisco and at four Southern California PVS sites on November 17, 2012—days before the scheduled arbitration hearing and weeks before the arbitrator could render a decision.

The APWU has contended that the USPS violated the CBA from the beginning by not notifying or meeting with the APWU about the proposed California PVS conversion to HCR and excessing of drivers from the Motor Vehicle Craft. One of the APWU's concerns was the effect the excessing would have on the drivers who could not perform Letter Carrier work, or who might feel forced to take the VERA offer by December 3—well before anyone would learn the outcome of the arbitration hearing. Managers were telling APWU officials that they did plan to begin excessing on November 17, 2012.

The injunction hearing was packed with drivers and officials from several APWU locals. No USPS managers were present.

The USPS attorney argued that the injunction hearing was premature, since arbitration was scheduled. After several minutes of what observers described as vague rambling by the USPS lawyer, the judge asked the attorney directly if the USPS had begun negotiating HCR contracts. The lawyer did not say anything. "Silence is not a response," the judge said. She repeated the question. "No, they're not negotiating contracts," the USPS lawyer finally replied. The room erupted in laughter. The response is now part of the court record. As several drivers pointed out afterwards, it is not believable that the USPS would plan to start excessing with no HCR contracts in place.

Both parties finally agreed that the arbitrator would have jurisdiction over the entire case.

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It's A Date

- General Meeting 2/28/13
- General Meeting 2/9/13
- Women's Equality Day 3/26/12
- Local Arbitration 3/15/13
- Local Arbitration 3/28/13

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- Chelsea Miles
- Matthew L. Nichols
- Adaku Omekenyi
- Son Phan
- Stefanie K. Palmer
- Lisa D. Scott
- Tamysha Slater
- Raj Inder Singh
- Pauline A. Soria
- Elvin S. Torrian
- Dovionne A. Vann
- Samuel Velasquez
- Tiare ' M. Womack

THE APWU DELIVERS ANOTHER PUNCH

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There will be no contracting out until the arbitrator has rendered a decision. In mid-February the parties will submit their briefs to the arbitrator.

The APWU has put forth a lot of time, money, and effort toward saving California Motor Vehicle Service. With President Cliff Guffey, Motor Vehicle Division Director Bob Pritchard and Assistant Director Michael Foster, Industrial Relations Director Mike Morris, Western Regional Coordinator Omar Gonzalez and National Business Agent Javier Pineres leading the struggle with a barrage of punches, we have a very good chance of winning the fight.

SUBCONTRACTING POSTAL WORK CAN BE COSTLY

and nonsensical. This was recently demonstrated by the \$62,543.00 payout made by the USPS to thirteen Oakland Plant maintenance craft employees for two subcontracting violations. Each employee will receive \$4811.00. Management could have purchased a lot of equipment that the Oakland Plant desperately needs with this payout.

AREA / REGIONAL ARTICLE 12 GOOD NEWS

On January 25, 2013, APWU Regional Coordinator Omar Gonzalez was informed by USPS Area Management that there would be no excessing of Oakland Bid Cluster APWU employees from the Oakland installation and / or craft in the foreseeable future. He was also informed that despite being placed on the 18 site accelerated list, the North Bay event will not take place until sometime in 2014 and that there are no plans to reassign the North Bay employees to the Oakland facility.



Many restaurants offer free or discounted food for kids. To be eligible, special rules may apply: Kids must be under a certain age or must order from special menus at specified times. To find a location for your family, go to: www.familyfriendlyamerica.com or www.coupondivas.com.

PSEs HAVE RIGHTS

ALSO

If you are missing a full day of pay (two hours) from your pay checks you should contact your steward to assist you in obtaining a Salary Advance (Interim Salary Payment-Emergency Salary).

Section 23-3 of the Field Accounting Procedure Handbook (F-101) authorizes Postmasters and supervisors to issue Salary Advances to employees who receive salary checks that are less than a full day of pay. PSEs who are scheduled to work and who report are guaranteed two (2) hours of work or pay

(Article 8 § 8.D, CBA). Accordingly, a full day of pay for a PSE is two (2) hours. The PSE Memorandum can be found in Appendix A in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

