

Weekly Manual Posting Service Talk

The union, NALC Branch 56 and management of the Grand Rapids, MI installation have agreed to a new process for bidding vacant/ newly created routes for Grand Rapids City Letter Carriers. We are here to explain this new process and answer any questions you may have. We do ask that you wait until we are done with the service talk to ask questions as they may get answered during the service talk.

Let us start with the reason why we are doing this. We need to speed up the process of bidding routes to get to residual vacancies. When we have residual vacancies, we convert CCAs and/or take transfers to fill these routes. We are at this moment, understaffed in Grand Rapids. It can take months to get to the residual vacancies using the electronic Bidding Process we currently use.

There are also a few other problems the new process will clear up. We hope by jointly doing the new process, there will be fewer mistakes and grievances.

The new process is weekly manual bidding. What will happen is every Friday there will be a new posting, if needed. This posting will be sent out like normal to each station. The difference is these postings will all be manual from here on out.

The carriers will no longer bid online or by phone. All regular carriers will have to use a PS Form 1717-A from June 2009 or newer if it is updated. This form can be found on the home page blue.usps.gov from any USPS computer. The supervisors can go to this home page, click on the "My Work" tab and then on left hand side find "forms". The supervisor can print the form right there. However Management will order or print PS Form 1717-A from June 2009 and make sure there are plenty on hand at each station. (show PS Form 1717-A)

Each weekly posting will have a posting number of the year and then week. An example would be 2018-1; this would be this year and the first full week of January.

The carriers will have to fill out PS Form 1717-A completely and correctly. A PS Form 1717-A can only be used for one posting at a time, not two or more different postings. The carrier will be responsible for reading the directions or asking for help, if they are unsure of the form. A PS Form 1717-A that is not the correct form or is not filled out completely or correctly will be considered void and not counted as a bid. (go through the form with them)

The carrier should have the completed PS Form 1717-A round dated, a copy should be made by the carrier and then placed into the same box as the temporary hold down bids. (show/ tell them the box location) This box is to be locked and will be pulled by management.

The postings will start on Fridays at 6:00 a.m., unless holiday, then Saturdays at same time. The postings will close eleven (11) days later on the second Monday at 11:00 a.m., unless holiday, then Tuesday at same time.

The station supervisors will pull the box every Monday at 12:00 p.m. and scan the bids to Customer Service Support Supervisor, (Dale Kivinen) and the NALC Branch 56 President, (Kyle Inosencio).

The routes will be awarded just like they are now based on seniority, following article 41.

The award notices for these postings will be sent out like normal to each station. These award notices will be sent out the Tuesday after the posting closes at or before 5:00p.m.

The carriers will take over the awarded routes the first day of the next pay period.

Again this process is to speed up bidding to get to residual routes.

This is a joint process both the union and management will be working together at each step top make it work.

Thank you.

Any questions?