



October 29, 2009

Don Cantriel, President
National Rural Letter Carriers'
Association
1630 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3467

Dear Don:

This letter will confirm our mutual understanding of MOU 7 in the National Agreement between the United States Postal Service and the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, as it applies **only** to those instances when a regular rural carrier, who is temporarily unable to fully perform the duties of the bid-for position, bids for a rural carrier assignment resulting from posting of regular routes involved in a route consolidation in accordance with Article 12.3.A.1.c.

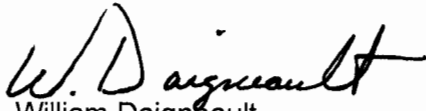
There will be limited occasions when a regular rural carrier will submit a bid for rural route assignments in accordance with MOU 7, which have been changed as a result of consolidation and are posted for bid due to the displacement of one or more regular rural carriers from their assigned routes. In these instances, should a regular rural carrier bid under the provisions of MOU 7, and be the senior bidder on a rural route assignment, the route will **not** be held in abeyance as prescribed by the MOU. The regular rural carrier will be awarded and assigned the bid-for assignment, and the route vacated by the carrier will be awarded in accordance with the provisions of Article 12.

When a regular rural carrier is displaced from the assigned route as a result of a route consolidation and the route is posted in accordance with Article 12.3.A.1.c, but the regular carrier is ineligible to bid in accordance with MOU 7; the carrier will be assigned to the residual vacancy resulting from the posting.

In those instances when the regular rural carrier, placed in the new route assignment, has not yet reached the time requirement in which the route must be relinquished in accordance with MOU 6, the time requirement will continue uninterrupted on the newly assigned route.

This mutual understanding is applicable only to regular rural carriers bidding in accordance with MOU 7 (both for job-related and non-job-related illnesses or injuries) on those routes posted under the provisions of Article 12.3.A.1.c.

Sincerely,



William Daigneault
Manager
Contract Administration (NRLCA)

Concurrence:



Don Cantriel, President
National Rural Letter Carriers'
Association