Mail Handler Assistant (MHA) Hourly Wage Rates – Effective November 16, 2013 (PP25-2013)

The American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) recently concluded its quadrennial National Convention in Los Angeles, California. The NPMHU enjoys an affiliation with the AFL-CIO dating back more than seventy-five years. The NPMHU first became a direct AFL-CIO affiliate in 1937, and has continued an indirect affiliation following its merger with the Laborers’ International Union of North America (LIUNA) back in 1968. As the principal officer and National President for the NPMHU, John Hegarty sits on the AFL-CIO General Board. President Hegarty, accompanied by members of the NPMHU National Executive Board, was in attendance at the 2013 AFL-CIO National Convention in September 2013.

The AFL-CIO is governed through its quadrennial convention, at which all Federation members are represented by their respective delegates. Convention delegates set broad policies and goals for the union movement and every four years elect the AFL-CIO officers—the president, secretary-treasurer, executive vice president and vice presidents. These officers make up the AFL-CIO Executive Council, which guides the daily work of the Federation. During the proceedings, Richard L. Trumka was re-elected by acclamation as AFL-CIO President, Elizabeth Shuler was re-elected by acclamation as AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer, and Tefere Gebre secured the position of AFL-CIO Executive Vice President (also by acclamation), making up the top three officers of the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

This year’s Convention occurred as America’s working families—and our unions—face remarkable changes, challenges, and opportunities. It’s a time for facing tough realities and seizing the future for working people. The convention theme – Dream; Innovate; Act – directed the delegates to focus on several crucial issues: Changing the labor movement to speak for working people now and in the future through growth, innovation and political action; Creating a voice and prosperity for all in the global economy; and Building genuine, durable community partnerships and effective grassroots power. This Convention also served to bring labor and our community allies together to build a new path forward into the future for America’s working families.

During the course of the Convention, 53 resolutions and 12 constitutional amendments were submitted for consideration. Forty-one resolutions and 6 constitutional amendments were adopted. Of significant importance to all mail handlers, Resolution 40 addressed sensible postal reform. The resolution was adopted by the delegates and was highlighted in the NPMHU September Update and may be viewed at www.npmhu.org. The delegates went on to adopt other resolutions addressing important matters such as collective bargaining rights and assisting workers to organize; rebuilding our democracy by expanding workers’ rights and strengthening workers’ organizations; retirement security; safe jobs; shared prosperity, economic security and tax fairness; young worker and youth engagement; the Employment Non-Discrimination Act; and the protection and expansion of Medicare benefits. Delegates were presented with a wide-ranging and diverse program offering a multitude of training opportunities, panel discussions, and activities throughout the week. More information regarding the 2013 National Convention can be found on the AFL-CIO website at http://www.aflcio.org.