



# MAIL HANDLER UPDATE

NATIONAL POSTAL MAIL HANDLERS UNION

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS: 815 16<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. • Suite 5100 • Washington, D.C. 20006 • (202) 833-9095



Paul V. Hogrogian  
National President

## RATIFICATION MATERIAL TO BE MAILED ON JANUARY 31, 2023

BALLOT COUNT SET FOR MARCH 13, 2023



Michael J. Hora  
Secretary-Treasurer

The results of collective bargaining for the 2022 National Agreement between the NPMHU and USPS will be mailed to mail handlers on January 31, 2023. Ballots will be counted on March 13, 2023. The tentative agreement contains many important gains and improvements in wages, work rules, and other benefits, and we urge you to vote “Yes” to ratify the contract.

### CONTRACT RATIFICATION PROCEDURES

The following procedures were adopted by the National Executive Board of the National Postal Mail Handlers Union in November 2022, pursuant to Article V, Section 9 of the NPMHU National Constitution, to govern the vote to ratify the terms of the tentative 2022 National Agreement between the Union and the U.S. Postal Service.

1. All regular members who are employed by the U.S. Postal Service as of PP26-2022 shall be eligible to vote. It will take a majority of the votes properly cast to ratify the tentative agreement.
2. The voting shall be by mail ballot in postage-guaranteed return envelopes that are pre-addressed to a Post Office Box rented for the collection of such ballots. Voters are to put their name, their address, their Local Union, and the last four digits of their employee identification number on the return envelope, but not on the inside envelope containing their secret ballot.
3. All eligible voters will be furnished with the text of any proposed changes and deletions to the National Agreement, together with their ballots and return envelopes, as soon as practicable after the tentative agreement has been reached. It is the present intention of the National Office to mail these materials to all eligible voters no later than sixty (60) days after the date on which a tentative agreement is announced. As set forth above, these materials will be mailed on or about January 31, 2023.
4. The balloting period shall extend for at least thirty-five (35) days after the mailing of ballots. The ballots will be collected from the Post Office Box, verified, and counted beginning at 9:00 a.m. on that day. The Union shall retain the American Arbitration Association or a similar organization to certify the ballot count. All Local Unions may send observers to be present at the collection, verification, opening, and counting of the ballots.
5. Any member who does not receive a ballot or the accompanying information must call the Ratification Ballot Coordinator at 202-833-9095, extension 1029, to request those materials.
6. The results of the voting will be announced publicly after the final ballot count is available. Copies of the official ballot count will be furnished to all Local Unions for posting.
7. All envelopes and ballots, together with other pertinent records pertaining to the vote, shall be maintained by the National Office for at least one year.

## ADDRESSING FRAUDULENT POSTALEASE AND LITEBLUE ACCESS

On December 20, 2022, the USPS notified the Union that some Postal Service employees had unknowingly provided their usernames and passwords to criminal websites, while attempting to access PostalEase. We were told that employees had been using the Google search engine to access PostalEase. Google’s search engine, however, directed them to third-party websites that were designed to mirror the look and access of PostalEase. When employees entered in their login credentials on these websites, we were told that the creators of those websites were able to record those credentials. The USPS informed us that approximately 119 employees were impacted. Once they had possession of the employees’ login credentials, the criminals were able to enter PostalEASE and access the employee’s sensitive information, including, as USPS has explained creating unauthorized allotments or even redirecting one’s entire check to a different financial institution without their knowledge.

The Postal Service also stated that they received reports at the district level that Postal Inspectors have been contacting impacted employees, as well as employees who may have unknowingly been compromised and was requesting their EINs and passwords. USPS has stressed that Postal Inspectors have not and will not be asking postal employees to provide their EINs and passwords. **You should never give your usernames or passwords to anyone.**

The Postal Service has assured us that the official PostalEase site itself has not been breached and that no employee who has accessed PostalEase through the official postal website has been impacted. The official website is <https://liteblue.usps.gov>.

The Postal Service position is that any liability for the use of compromised login information on the PostalEase site remains with Google and that they will not provide salary advances for those employees whose credentials were stolen when they accessed the unauthorized websites that mirrored LiteBlue.

The Postal Service has issued mandatory Stand Up Talks. They are also in the process of sending letters to each impacted employee as well as letters to all employees to address the issue. To prevent any further unauthorized changes, the external link to PostalEase was disabled on December 29<sup>th</sup>. The Postal Service is working to expedite the deployment of a multi-factor authentication feature which will prompt employees for a second identification factor, such as a one-time passcode through text or email. This security enhancement is tentatively scheduled to launch on January 15, 2023. In the interim, employees can also contact the helpdesk at 877-477-3273 for assistance with any LiteBlue needs. Until the multi-factor authentication is implemented, employees may only log into LiteBlue from a USPS issued device in a USPS facility.

Any financially impacted employee should immediately contact the Eagan ASC Helpdesk at 866-974-2733 for assistance. If you suspect you are a victim of this fraud or if you encounter a fake LiteBlue website, you should also contact CyberSafe by email at [cybersafe@usps.gov](mailto:cybersafe@usps.gov). The Postal Service is purchasing a one-year credit monitoring service for all impacted employees.

We have requested information regarding this fraudulent activity and continue to meet with postal officials. We are also preparing a national level grievance. Additional details will be shared when known.



**Please Post!!**

**January 2023**