



National Association
of Letter Carriers

William H. Young, President

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Santorum Commits to Push Bush On Postal Military Retiree Ripoff Young, Pennsylvania Activists Prod Senator Into Supporting Postal Reform Bill Provision



Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) watches as NALC President William H. Young introduces him at Pennsylvania congressional breakfast by asking Santorum to explain his stance on a NALC-backed postal reform provision to end the requirement that the Postal Service pay retirement benefits for military service years of its retirees. Santorum, in turn, said he would support the NALC in its efforts to use his GOP-leadership clout to do it. (Photo by Mark Danneker)

The NALC leadership and hundreds of letter carrier activists from Pennsylvania received a clear commitment from Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) May 11 that he will use his influence as a member of the Senate Republican leadership to ensure that a provision remains in final postal reform legislation to end the Bush administration's unconscionable requirement that the Postal Service pay for \$27 billion in military retirement benefits of postal employees.

Santorum gave his pledge during an appearance at the annual congressional breakfast of the Pennsylvania State Association of Letter Carriers after meeting a day earlier with a delegation of Pennsylvania carriers and a face-to-face prodding for his stance on the issue as he was introduced by NALC President William H. Young.



Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA) tells breakfast he is pleased at hearing of Santorum's comment as National Business Agent Bill Lucini, left, and Pennsylvania State President Joe Antal observe. (Photo by Mike Shea)

Chair Tom Davis (R-VA) "have stood up against the President" and support postal reform bills passed in the House and Senate that would return that obligation to the United States Treasury.

"I know that our members would be real interested in your views on this issue that is so important to us," Young said as he introduced Santorum.

Santorum, the third-ranking member of the Senate Republican leadership, told nearly 300 letter carriers that after a meeting Wednesday with members of the Pennsylvania delegation on their annual lobbying trip to Capitol Hill that he called Senator Collins and said he "had a long discussion with her."

"We did talk about the issue that you mentioned and I made it clear to her that I supported her in her effort," Santorum said. "In fact, when I was told by the (NALC) folks at our meeting yesterday that the President has suggested that, or implemented that, I was—in a word—stunned that we would be requiring an independent organization to pick up a government responsibility."

"So, I would support her (Collins) and made it very clear that any help I can give as a member of the Senate leadership to make sure that we get that provision in the final conference report, you will have my support, and my effort along with her and Representative Davis to make sure the Postal Service is not saddled with that responsibility in the future," Santorum said.

Later, Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA), a long-time friend of letter carriers, said he was "pleased to hear of Rick's support" for the military retiree provision of the postal reform bill.

President Young also welcomed Santorum's commitment.

"I am delighted with his response," Young said. "I will do everything in my power to make sure he delivers on his promise."

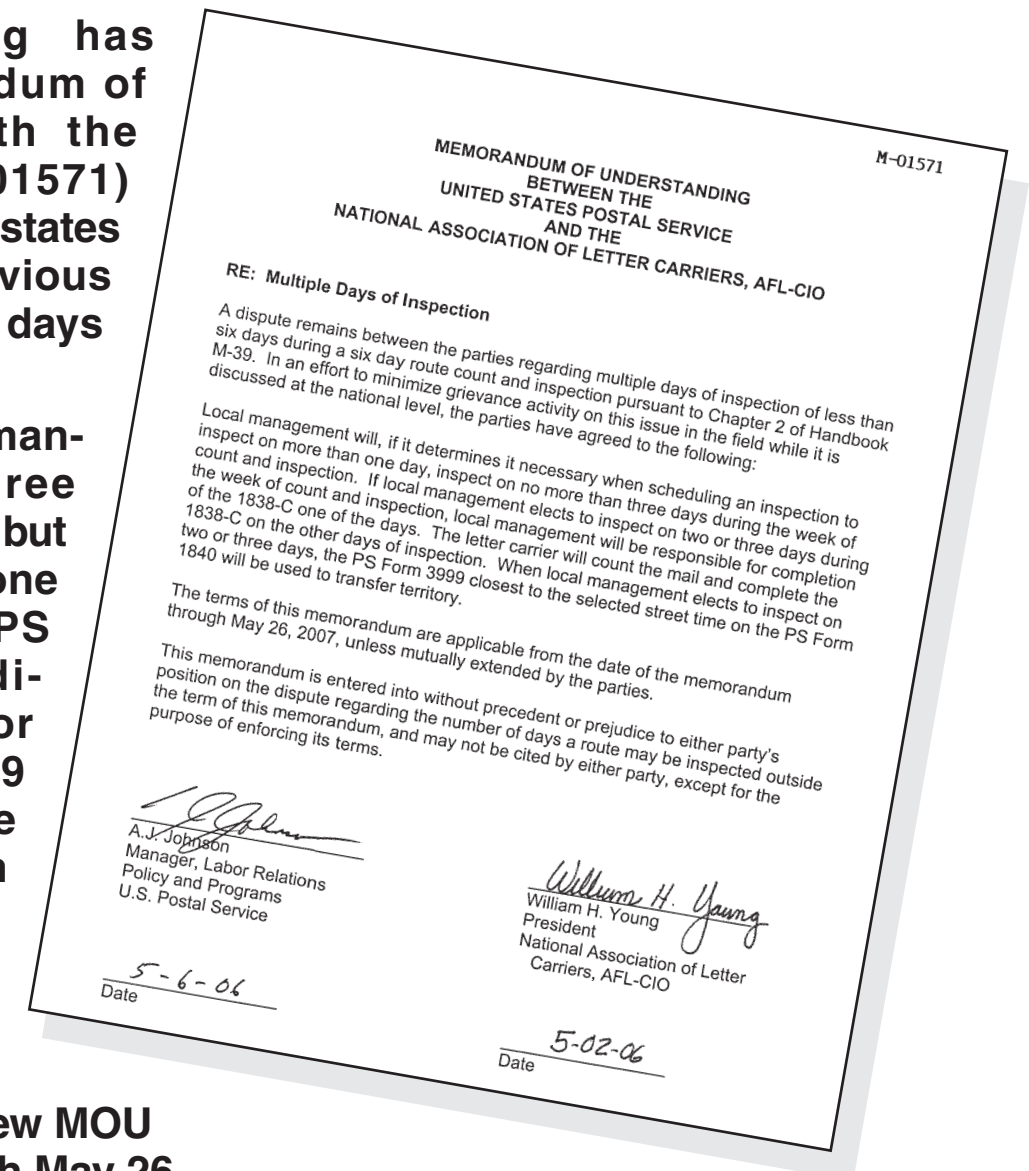
The Pennsylvania congressional gathering was the third major NALC lobbying effort in two weeks, along with that of Ohio carriers and a combined effort by Region 13 carriers from Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

NALC & USPS Extend MOU On Multiple Inspection Days

President Young has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Postal Service (M-01571) which effectively reinstates the terms of the previous memos on "multiple days of inspection."

The MOU allows management up to three "days of inspection," but limits them to only one day of completing PS Form 1838-C. Additionally, when two or three PS Forms 3999 are completed, the MOU dictates which PS Form 3999 will be used to transfer territory when adjusting routes.

The terms of the new MOU are applicable through May 26, 2007 unless mutually extended by the parties.



Letter Carriers Set to 'Stamp Out Hunger'!



Letter carriers from several southern New Jersey branches—South Jersey Br. 908, Atlantic City Br. 370, Mt. Laurel Br. 2682, Willingboro Br. 5801, Camden Br. 540, Cape-Atlantic Br. 903, and Cherry Hill Br. 6311—and rural carriers from Absecon, NJ help move into postal trucks the first of 1 million pounds of Campbell Soup products donated to the food drive during a South Jersey Kickoff May 9 at Campbell World Headquarters in Camden, NJ. In center, New Jersey State Sen. John Adler presents a proclamation commemorating the food drive from New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine. In right photo, Orlando, FL Mayor Buddy Dyer, left, presents proclamation May 11 to Central Florida Br. 1091 food drive coordinator Thomas Inglima, center, and Orlando Postmaster Robert King. (Photos by Campbell Soup and USPS)

Letter carriers across the nation were primed for the 14th annual NALC National Food Drive on May 13, kicked off by a 1 million pound donation of food from Campbell Soup at a ceremony May 9 at its world headquarters in Camden, NJ.

Media attention grew daily as food drive day approached and more than 115 million Campbell Soup-U.S. Postal Service postcards promoting the drive were delivered by city and rural carriers in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam and the District of Columbia.

The union's goal was to surpass the record 71.3 million pounds delivered to food banks, pantries and shelters from last year's drive.

Campbell Soup Vice President Sean Connolly presided at the Camden ceremony attended by representatives of numerous NALC branches in South Jersey and rural carriers from Absecon. Connolly noted that Campbells was proud to support the NALC in the drive and its effort to "Stamp Out Hunger" in America.

New Jersey State Sen. John Adler presented the NALC with a proclamation from Gov. Jon S. Corzine which in part commended "the caring and dedicated members of the NALC (who) reach out and make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate through the annual NALC Food Drive."

The proclamation by Corzine was just one of numerous by governors, mayor and other governmental officials who back the drive.

In Florida, Gov. Jeb Bush declared May 13 "Florida Letter Carriers Food Drive Day," praising the NALC, NRLCA, USPS, Valpak, Publix Super Markets, Campbell Soup and the United Way of America "for working together to alleviate the nationwide hunger problem" and Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer presented a proclamation to Central Florida Br. 1091.

Send in Total!

Branch coordinators should return their official results form immediately to NALC headquarters so a national total can be tabulated and branch results published in the *Postal Record*. **Results must be received at NALC Headquarters by June 1 at the latest.**



Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) is greeted by NALC Executive Vice President Jim Williams at the Region 13 congressional breakfast as West Virginia State President Joe Paden, standing, looks on. At right, Rep. Ted Strickland (D-OH), a candidate for governor in that state, receives a warm welcome at the Ohio NALC State Association congressional breakfast. (Photos by Sean McCormally)