

'Fight Like Hell!'



**Brian L.
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Last month, NALC launched a new campaign to guide our union's work at every level, "Fight Like Hell!" Since the founding of our union 135 years ago, NALC members have fought for everything we have achieved and we have fought against every attack that has come our way, and that's exactly what we're doing now.

We held a kickoff event at NALC Headquarters on Feb. 13, where NALC members and leaders, along with members and leaders of other unions, came together

to commit to all the fights ahead. There's a lot on our plates, including the fight for a better contract, for safety and protection on the job, and for fair retirement for all letter carriers, and the fight against any efforts to privatize the Postal Service. Just a week after our launch event, one of these fights came into clear focus.

On Feb. 20, we started hearing reports of a potential executive order from the White House that would dismantle the Postal Service as we know it. According to reports, this executive order would fire the Postal Service Board of Governors and place the independent, self-sufficient agency under the control of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Immediately, we and the other postal unions saw this for what it was—a direct attack on letter carriers and all 640,000 postal employees, our universal service, and every person who relies on the Postal Service.

Letter carriers quickly sprang into action, and days later, we held a rally on Capitol grounds where hundreds of NALC members rallied to say "Hell no!"

We sent a powerful message, and as I write this, no executive order regarding the Postal Service has been released. But the threats are real and must be taken seriously.

While letter carriers know and understand the dangers of privatization, it's worth reminding ourselves

what's at stake and how devastating such an order would be for us and every American.

Our members' work is at the center of the \$1.9 trillion mailing industry. We deliver nearly half of the world's mail. Without our work, 51.5 million households and businesses in rural communities would have no guaranteed delivery.

Additionally, this wouldn't just threaten the job of every postal employee—at least 73,000 of whom are veterans—it also would jeopardize the jobs of 7.9 million people employed in the mailing industry.

The Trump administration's goal is to get rid of us and create a fragmented, unreliable and more expensive private version of the Postal Service.

These ideas are dangerous and illegal. The Postal Service, which will celebrate its 250th anniversary this year, is older than our country and it is enshrined in the Constitution. The Constitution gives Congress, not the president, authority in setting postal policy, and if Trump tries to break the law with executive action, we will fight like hell to stop it.

This will be a tough and ongoing fight, but fortunately, we have the public on our side. Americans love the Postal Service, and it's repeatedly ranked in annual polls as the most-trusted government agency. That's because Americans know they can count on their letter carrier, and regardless of how anyone voted in last year's presidential election, they did not vote to destroy the Postal Service.

In the coming weeks, check nalc.org for more information about how you can get involved in our fight. Digital and in-person days of action are ongoing, and to succeed, we'll need everyone fighting like hell together.



For more on Fight Like Hell, scan the QR code above.