



# POSTAL NEWS

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202-268-2155  
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## **POSTAL SERVICE AND ITS FOUR LARGEST UNIONS EXTEND CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BEYOND MIDNIGHT DEADLINE**

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service and its four largest unions have agreed to extend contract negotiations to 3 p.m. today in hopes of reaching negotiated settlements.

The current contracts expired at midnight last night with in the National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO (NALC), American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO (APWU), National Rural Letter Carrier's Association (NRLCA), and National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU).

The Postal Service and the four unions formally opened national contract negotiations in August. This year was the first time new contracts were negotiated separately at the same time with all four of the unions.

Since 1775, the United States Postal Service and its predecessor, the Post Office Department, have connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. An independent federal agency that visits more than 144 million homes and businesses every day, the Postal Service is the only service provider delivering to every address in the nation. It receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of \$70 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mailing and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The U.S. Postal Service delivers more than 46 percent of the world's mail volume-some 212 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year-and serves ten million customers each day at its 37,000 retail locations nationwide.

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