



POSTAL NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 6, 2006

Contact: Media Relations
202-268-2155
News Release No. 06-080
www.usps.com

POSTAL SERVICE AND APWU REACH TENTATIVE CONTRACT AGREEMENT

Negotiations continue with two other postal unions

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service and the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) have reached a tentative four-year contract agreement. Upon ratification by union members, the agreement will run through Nov. 20, 2010, and affect approximately 272,000 career employees in the Clerk, Maintenance and Motor Vehicle crafts.

In announcing the agreement today, Postal Service Vice President for Labor Relations Doug Tulino said, "We believe this tentative agreement is in the best interests of our customers, our employees and all postal stakeholders."

The Postal Service and the APWU formally opened national contract negotiations on Aug. 29, 2006. This year was the first time new contracts were negotiated separately at the same time with all four of the Postal Service's largest unions. Negotiations continue with two other unions, the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association (NRLCA) and the National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU). Negotiations with the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) were not successful and the two parties will now enter the dispute resolution process, which may include binding interest arbitration.

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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