



SAVE OUR MAIL SERVICE!

INFORMATIONAL PICKET AT THE OAKLAND MAIN POST OFFICE

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 26, 2006
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

This coming Thursday, the Oakland Local APWU will hold an informational picket line at the Oakland Main Post Office as part of a national day of picketing to inform the public and media about the USPS consolidation plan. All postal employees who have a stake in the future of the Post Office are encouraged to join us anytime off the clock between 11:30 am – 1:30 pm.

The Postal Service was recently forced to reveal secret plans outlining hundreds of postal facilities across the country targeted for consolidation. If implemented, the plan would mean serious disruptions to mail service. The consolidation plan is designed to benefit huge advertising mailers who presort their mail, and comes on the heels of a report criticizing the USPS for proposing excessive discounts to these corporate mailers. The Postal Service was founded to serve all Americans, yet the plans to downsize were developed behind closed doors, and without community input. If the USPS goes through with its plan it will be at the expense of individual customers and small businesses, and it will mean slower, less reliable mail service.

Locally, we are fighting downsizing on many fronts. The imminent closure of the Priority Mail Annex (PMA) is one result of the consolidation plan, which will include the closure of 49 other Air Mail Facilities nationwide. The closure of our CFS/Markup Unit and the transfer of that mail and our work to the Sacramento P&DC is another example. The elimination of Motor Vehicle Service at both the Fresno P&DC and Stockton P&DC, the transition to HRC transportation, the subcontracting of the Duplicating Unit and cleaning service work, and the centralization of Personnel and Finance office work make clear that all APWU represented employees are threatened with lost jobs. Other casualties, or those on the chopping block, include injured limited duty employees being evaluated for the OWCP Vocational Rehabilitation Program, and possible re-employment in the private sector. Another battle that we are engaged in at this moment is contract negotiations. The USPS has informed all the Craft Unions that increases in wages and benefits must be restricted and cost containment is the only answer.

The nationwide day of picketing is timed to take place right before this year's mid-term election. The Oakland Local APWU encourages all postal employees and their families to vote on November 7th. This Thursday let's join our brothers and sisters across the nation and have a successful informational picket to **SAVE OUR MAIL SERVICE!**

Fredric Jacobs
President

