



# National Postal Mail Handlers Union

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## Local 303 COVID-19 Virus Update # 5

Each week I try to keep you informed about the many changes that we as mail handlers are going through, but at the same time I want you to stay connected with your Branch President and Shop Steward. The information that I give is not facility specific, it's more about the constant changes that affect the Local and the Union.

As of April 17, 2020, nationally we have a total of 8604 brothers and sisters under quarantine and 975 tested positive. As far our 595 quarantined brothers and sisters here on the West Coast, the 46 positive tests include the Moreno Valley Facility. This is one more plant where we have gotten another positive test.

The COVID-19 is not to be taken lightly, each week when I give you a list of numbers these are real human beings that have families and friends. A person testing positive if hospitalized can't see those friends and family when they need as much moral support as possible.

When an employee at a facility test positive I get a call day or night 7 days a week. The information that is shared is what craft and what area/tour they worked. Their clock rings and gate rings are pulled to see when their last day at work was. I confirm that the postal required COVID-19 cleaning was done. I make sure that a stand-up talk will be given. I get the possible number of employees that could have come in contact with that individual. Most of the information comes through the interview that is performed by the Occupational Nurse. According to the Postal Service there has not been an employee to employee spread of COVID-19.

Please take the time to watch the hand washing video posted on the local website @ ([npmhulocal303.org](http://npmhulocal303.org)) explaining how the task of washing your hands will help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus.

We should expect, and management is actually trying to make sure we are performing our essential duties in a virus-free environment. All the cleaning and wiping won't do any good if you don't wear a face covering and practice social distancing at all times. At the time clock is one area that as an employee you can make the difference. Please except it when management removes chairs and tables out of break rooms and lunch rooms, it's for your safety.

There is currently conversation at the National Level regarding checking temperatures when employees report for work. This is something that I agree with and hope that all the Unions sign on to as a practice. A year ago, no one would have thought things could change so fast but these are the times we are living in.

Checking temperatures may become the new norm.

Eddie Cowan  
Local President