



# National Postal Mail Handlers Union

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## Local 303 COVID-19 Virus Update # 4

I know all of you have gotten tons of information regarding protocols that are in place to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. Please make sure you continue these steps to remain vigilant at home, and at work. The most recent safeguard added to the ways we can protect ourselves and others, is to wear a face mask. Some people may be infected with little or no symptoms but can still infect someone who may not be in the same health or age category that you are in.

The numbers for the Postal Service as of April 11, 2020 are: 6504 coworkers under quarantine and 539 tested positive. In the Pacific Area 441 employees are quarantined and 32 tested positive.

As the numbers are climbing and more facilities are getting positive tests. I just want you to understand that while working in the plant you may be aware of a coworker's condition but when you get the update the facts don't reflect the rumors. The process that I follow in this update is to only give numbers that have been confirmed by the Occupational Nurse for the Postal Service. For a number of reasons, the communication between the actual employee and the occupational nurse takes time and may not happen at all. Margaret Sellers (San Diego P&DC) has a positive test in the Bulk Mail section, this adds to the growing list of facilities where a positive test has occurred.

As dedicated employees who understand that we perform an essential public service and the country needs us at work. The sick leave for the Pacific Area is at 21%, that may sound high but just think, that's 79% of the employees going to work in these difficult times. The American public appreciates it, they are writing on the sidewalks and mail boxes saying, "Thank You." I will post some of the many thank you pictures shared by the different districts on [npmhulocal303.org](http://npmhulocal303.org)

The "Thank You" is to all Postal Employees as a team. The Mail Handlers are not the face of the Postal Service but we move the mail behind the scenes so that others can move mail to the frontlines, and on to final delivery.

The short video is posted on the web explaining how the task of washing your hands will help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. Please take the time to watch it!

The daily conference calls are continuing, and if you have any COVID-19 concerns regarding PPEs or cleanliness please let management know. If not addressed get the Union involved. I do get reports on the availability of supplies and the efforts management is making to have them available for use. They are trying.

Wear face covering for others if not yourself, Happy Easter.

Eddie Cowan  
Local President