



# National Postal Mail Handlers Union

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## LOCAL 303 INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

I am pleased to inform you that our Local is growing with large scale hiring that is currently in effect. The Executive Board would like to thank all of the new MHAs that have come aboard. We welcome you as the future. Local 303 has gained approximately 400 members in the last 3 months. We are on the way to becoming the second largest Local in the National Postal Mail Handler Union. I don't think it would be reasonable to hope to reach the number one spot held by New York Local 300 with over 5000 members. My goal is 3500 strong and I know we will get there.

Once again, I would like to congratulate all duly elected Branch Presidents and the entire Executive Board. The overwhelming support that the members have for the current officers of this Local clearly shows. Out of the 19 possible officers running for election there is a need to have elections in only two facilities. I thank all of the members. Thank You!

In a previous update I mentioned that due to the ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) we would be getting retroactive pay, and would also pay retroactive dues. I now have more information regarding this matter. The retroactive amount will be a one-time collection of \$21.00. This will be deducted in pay period 19 with pay day September 18, 2020. This is to inform you ahead of time and prevent all the Union representatives from being hit with the same question a million times.

As COVID-19 continues to disrupt our normal union functions such as branch meetings, picnic, and bowling events, the Council will be posting more information on the Local's website **[npmhlocal303.org](http://npmhlocal303.org)**. Please use this communication venue to stay abreast of National, Local, and Branch information.

The MOUs that were agreed on are getting close to an end date if no extension is signed. July 17<sup>th</sup> is the last date without extension, but I hope and expect them to be extended. For MHAs one of the MOUs is an extra 80 hours of sick leave that can be used for child care. The details are posted on the website under Steward Resources (click on COVID-19 Pandemic Resources and information). If any of the MOUs are not extended this will be the one. The MOU was agreed on before the Family First Act became law which gives additional 80 hours until December 31, 2020.

The MOU on Liberal Leave is being misrepresented by management. This MOU was agreed on so that all MHAs and Mail Handlers would not have to come to work if you feel uncomfortable coming to work because of COVID-19. You do not need to go to a doctor and you can use LWOP or Annual. You can use LWOP even if you have Annual Leave. If you want to use Liberal Leave you must contact your SDO and it can only be for COVID-19 related absences. It can't be used for high blood pressure unless you pressure went up because you were stressing out over the thought of working in a potentially unhealthy work environment. If that was the case then it could be COVID-19 Liberal Leave related. You must connect the dots.

Eddie Cowan  
Local President