

NAPS/USPS Meeting
At USPS Headquarters
Thursday, January 6, 2011 at 1:00 PM

Delivery Unit Optimization (DUO) Follow-up Meeting

Attending for NAPS:

Louis Atkins, President
Jay Killackey, Executive Vice President
Brian Wagner, Secretary/Treasurer

Charlie Moser, NAPUS
Mark Strong, League of Postmasters
Bob Rapoza NAPUS via telecom

Attending for USPS:

John Cavallo, Acting Manager - Labor Relations Policy Administration
Lee Olohan, Labor Relations Specialist - Labor Relations Policy Administration
Dean Granholm, VP Delivery & Post Office Operations

NAPS, the League and NAPUS met with USPS officials to follow-up on the Delivery Unit Optimization (DUO) process. The USPS provided the following information to the Management Associations.

Effective January 3, 2011, the DUO moratorium was lifted, with a few complications. There remains a moratorium on excessing APWU clerks from post offices until a contract is agreed upon, or the USPS may continue with DUO to move clerks but must pay them out-of-schedule pay. There is an additional moratorium that an office that received a DUO will not have the action taken to move employees until January 17. USPS gave a public reason for that. USPS has had a lot of contention from offices.

NAPS Region and Area VPs have been given access to the DUO CSDC system to monitor DUO activity in the field.

USPS showed NAPS how to access the Change Suspension Discontinuance Center (CSDC) Program on the BLUE page including the MAPS and 1994 Program and F4 Business Tracker. Much of this discussion was based on when an office would be viewed for suspension or discontinuance of service. The DUO system is also under the CSDC process, which provides data that identifies offices for DUO.

DUO is where a customer returns to the same post office where they received their service originally. If customers must go to another post office for their previous service, then it is not a DUO. Only the backend operations of an office were moved to another post office.

The USPS reviewed when, under the CSDC program, an office would be under suspension. They included Emergency Suspensions: Tornado, Flood, Hurricane, etc. Service can't be provided. USPS currently has 470 emergency suspension offices prior to 2011. Other Suspension is based on a PO 101 Review. Nothing bad happened except operations, or there are other reasons for the suspension. Associations requested a list of the guidelines for these types of office suspensions.

Discontinuance is when an office has long been under suspension and is now being moved to discontinuance. Stations and branches are not handled the same as a Post Office for discontinuance.

Under COV, when an office earns less than 2 hours a day they are no longer considered a post office. However, USPS must still go through the process to discontinue its operation. The current CSDC Program reviews a post office's WIR vs. TOE and distance between other PO's to make a determination if an office should be considered for suspension or discontinuance. Nationwide there are 281 post offices with less than 2 hours earned AND vacant, 125 have started a DUO and 273 have been identified to receive a DUO. Another alternative the USPS is looking at are 113 post offices between 2-6 hours earned on COV and Vacant with revenue dropping 20-40%, which may move these offices to less than 2 hours of earned operations.

A question was asked if an office is closed would it's ZIP Code be eliminated? USPS will not get rid of a ZIP Code even if USPS discontinues a post office, due to keeping a community's identity.

The USPS does not see that the closing of identified post offices will save a lot of money, but something needs to be done. We might as well start with offices already suspended, vacant, etc. In addition it will show Congress, the USPS is taking action to reduce costs. Congress wants to do PO closings like BRAC.

Vacant and suspended post offices and extreme stations and branches with only 1 clerk will be an area to focus on. Customers want access and want alternative services.

Nationwide, Post Offices with 9 or less routes are targeted at this time for DUO. The USPS will review 12.5% of all post offices with 9 routes in FY2011. There are 1919 offices on the list this FY. In FY2012, another 12.5% of the total post offices with 9 routes or less will be considered for DUO nationwide and this process will continue.

There are 174 stations and branches nationwide targeted in FY2011 for DUO. DUO is relocation of post office operations and not a consolidation.

Respectfully submitted,

NAPS Headquarters