



RESOLVE

STEP B DECISION

Step B Team:

USPS:

Alex Zamora

NALC:

Jim Ruetze

District:

Rio Grande

USPS Formal A:

Michael R. Moreno

NALC Formal A:

Joseph Blancarte

Decision:

USPS Number:

Grievant:

Branch Grievance Number:

Branch:

Installation:

Delivery Unit:

State:

Incident Date:

Informal Step A Meeting:

Formal Step A Meeting:

Received at Step B:

Step B Decision Date:

Issue Code:

NALC Subject Code:

RESOLVE

G11N-4G-C 1666 4682

Class

421-602-16

421

San Antonio

Laurel Heights

TX

06/25/2016

07/09/2016

07/22/2016

07/29/2016

08/30/2016

19.0000

600118

ISSUE:

Did management violate Articles 3, 5, 15 and/or 19 of the National Agreement by failing to provide a clerk to clear carriers of their accountable items? If so, what remedy is appropriate?

Did management violate Articles 15, 17, 19 and/or 31 of the National Agreement by failing to provide the union with requested documentation/interviews within 72 hours? If so, what remedy is appropriate?

DECISION:

The Dispute Resolution Team (DRT) mutually agreed to **RESOLVE** this grievance. Management violated Articles 3 and 5 of the National Agreement by failing to arrange for proper clearance of accountable items. Consistent with prior Step B decisions on this issue, carriers may remain on the clock until they are properly cleared of their accountable items in accordance with postal handbooks and manuals as described in the EXPLANATION portion of this decision. In the event management does not arrange for proper clearance of accountable items on a daily basis, carriers will not be held responsible for irregularities (e.g. loss or damage) related to accountable items.

Management also violated Articles 15, 17 and 31 by failing to provide requested information and interviews within 72 hours, which is the time frame that has been established as "reasonable" in prior Step B decisions. No explanation was given to excuse the failure to adhere to the 72-hour rule. Steward Joseph Blancarte is awarded \$200.00, less applicable deductions, and management is again instructed to cease and desist failing to provide requested information and/or interviews within 72 hours. See the DRT Explanation below.

EXPLANATION:

This grievance revisits the proper procedures concerning the handling of accountable items in the San Antonio installation, in this case Laurel Heights Station. Prior Step B decisions included in the file, also concerning clearance of accountable items, resolved grievances arising from Lockhill Station and Nimitz Station, also in San Antonio. Upon returning from their street duties, carriers at Laurel Heights Station are instructed to leave their accountable items at the supervisor's desk rather than in the accountable cage with the clearing clerk.

