



# RESOLVE



## STEP B DECISION

<b>Step B Team:</b>	Decision:	<b>RESOLVE</b>
USPS:	USPS Number:	<b>G19N-4G-C 2123 1219</b>
<b>Alex Zamora</b>	Grievant:	<b>Class Action</b>
NALC:	Branch Grievance Number:	<b>421-1851-21</b>
<b>Jose Portales</b>	Branch:	<b>421</b>
District:	Installation:	<b>San Antonio</b>
<b>Rio Grande - Texas 3</b>	Delivery Unit:	<b>Beacon Hill Station</b>
	State:	<b>TX</b>
	Incident Date:	<b>04/14/2021</b>
	Informal Step A Meeting:	<b>04/22/2021</b>
	Formal Step A Meeting:	<b>05/18/2021</b>
	Received at Step B:	<b>05/26/2021</b>
	Step B Decision Date:	<b>06/08/2021</b>
	Issue Code:	<b>08.5450</b>
	NALC Subject Code:	<b>120051</b>

**ISSUE:** Did management violate Article 8.5, sections D and G of the National Agreement when they mandated non-overtime desired list (ODL) and work assignments (WA) letter carriers to work overtime on and off their assignments while ODL carriers were still available? If so, what is the remedy?

**DECISION:** The Dispute Resolution Team (DRT) mutually agreed to **RESOLVE** this grievance. The case file evidenced a violation of Articles 8.5.D and 8.5.G of the National Agreement. The letter carriers in the table below are compensated in the amounts by their names. The non-ODL carriers who were improperly assigned to work overtime were compensated an additional 100% of their straight time rate and ODL carriers were compensated for the missed overtime opportunities at the rate of pay they would have earned if they had performed the work. Management must assign overtime consistent with the provisions of Article 8.5. All payments associated with these remedies have been processed at Step B through GATS. See the DRT Explanation below.

EIN	Employee	Hours	Remedy
04466169	Castaneda, J.	0.45	\$13.28
04759024	Jordan, E.	1.54	\$45.43
04360805	Mazuka, R.	1.99	\$58.71
04707834	Favela, R.	1.28	\$37.76
04618971	Olivas, D.	1.41	\$41.60
03339115	Ramos, L.	1.05	\$60.05
03532392	Gonzales, H.	0.47	\$59.47
03593848	Perales, A.	1.48	\$60.48
04350827	Gonzales, E.	0.64	\$59.64

**EXPLANATION:** This is a class action grievance filed on behalf of the city letter carriers assigned to the Beacon Hill Station in San Antonio, TX. The grievance was filed to protest management working non-ODL and WA carriers on and off their assignments while ODL carriers were available. Unable to resolve the dispute through the Informal and Formal A steps of the grievance procedure, the union appealed to Step B

The union contends management violated Article 8.5.D and 8.5.G of the National Agreement when non- ODL and WA carriers were mandated to work on and off their own assignments while ODL carriers were available at the overtime and penalty overtime rates. The union also contends management violated Article 15.3.A and Postal Policy Letter M-01517 via Article 19 when they failed to comply with Arbitrator Barrett's decision dated 12/30/2019. Arbitrator Barrett's ordered management to fully cease and desist from further violations of Article 8. Management contends a city carrier assistant (CCA) left early on the day in question due to a dog bite. However, management was unable to provide any documentation to support this incident took place. Management also contends a full-time regular also left early on this day to seek medical attention but this carrier left at noon, which gave management enough time to assign that work to overtime carriers.

The union requests management immediately cease and desist violating the provisions of Article 8 and pay the non-ODLs 100% of pay rate or administrative leave for the time they were mandated on and off assignment and the ODL carriers to be made whole for the time they should have worked. The union also requests management compensate the union \$250.00 for the continued effort and resources needed to process the attached grievance. The union finally requests all carriers affected be compensated an additional \$10.00 for management's failure to comply with Arbitrator Barrett's decision or whatever the Step B Team deems appropriate.

**Management** contends on the day in question there were two unforeseen circumstances that impacted the daily operations. The CCA assigned to route 01001 left early this day due to a dog bite and the full-time carrier on route 28058 left early to seek medical attention. There was also a total of six (6) unscheduled absences on this day. Due to the unforeseen circumstances and the call-ins management was forced to use non-ODL carriers to carry pivots off their assignments to maintain the efficiency of the service.

The DRT reviewed the case file and determined the overtime among full-time carriers on 04/14/2021 was not assigned in accordance with the provisions of Article 8.5. On the day in question the overtime carriers had still not reached the 12/60 hour limit and were still available.

The following excerpts from Article 8.5.D of the Joint Contract Administration Manual (JCAM) language, on page 8-17, addresses when to assign overtime to non-ODL carriers off their assignments in assigning overtime among the overtime desired list carriers:

***Mandatory Overtime.*** One purpose of the Overtime Desired List is to excuse full-time carriers not wishing to work overtime from having to work overtime. Before requiring a non-ODL carrier to work overtime on a non-scheduled day or off his/her own assignment on a regularly scheduled day, **management must seek to use a carrier from the ODL, even if the ODL carrier would be working penalty overtime.** However, if the Overtime Desired List does not provide sufficient qualified fulltime regulars for required overtime, Article 8.5.D permits management to move off the list and require non-ODL carriers to work overtime on a rotating basis starting with the junior employee. This rotation begins with the junior employee at the beginning of each calendar quarter. Absent an LMOU

*provision to the contrary, employees who are absent on a regularly scheduled day (e.g. sick leave or annual leave) when it is necessary to use non-ODL employees on overtime will be passed over in the rotation until the next time their name comes up in the regular rotation. [Emphasis Added]*

As it pertains to the 12 hours/60 day hours rule, the JCAM states the following on pages 8-19 and 8-20:

*On October 19, 1988 the national parties signed the following Memorandum of Understanding (M-00859):*

*The parties agree that with the **exception** of December, full-time employees are prohibited from working more than 12 hours in a single work day or 60 hours within a service week. In those limited instances where this provision is or has been violated and a timely grievance filed, full-time employees will be compensated at an additional premium of 50 percent of the base hourly straight time rate for those hours worked beyond the 12 or 60 hour limitation. The employment of this remedy shall not be construed as an agreement by the parties that the Employer may exceed the 12 and 60 hour limitation with impunity.*

*As a means of facilitating the foregoing, the parties agree that excluding December, once a full-time employee reaches 20 hours of over- time within a service week, the employee is no longer available for any additional overtime work. Furthermore, the employee's tour of duty shall be terminated once he or she reaches the 60th hour of work, in accordance with Arbitrator Mittenthal's National Level Arbitration Award on this issue, dated September 11, 1987, in case numbers H4NNA-C 21 (3rd issue) and H4C-NA-C 27 (C-07323). [Emphasis Added]*

For Work Assignment carriers and Carrier Technicians on work assignment, the following JCAM language from page 8-22 addresses the assignment of overtime off their assignment or on a non-scheduled day:

*The Work Assignment List was established for full-time letter carriers who only want to work overtime on their own assignment on regularly scheduled days. Signing up for the Work Assignment overtime does not create any entitlement or obligation to work overtime on a non-scheduled day. For purposes of **overtime on a non-scheduled day or on other than their own assignment**, carriers on the Work Assignment list are treated exactly the same as any other full-time carriers **not on the Overtime Desired List**—They may only be required to work overtime under the provisions of Article 8.5.D. [Emphasis in Original]*

On page 8-22, the JCAM clarifies that the "work assignment" for the purpose of assigning overtime to Carrier Technicians on the WA list consists of all five routes on the string:

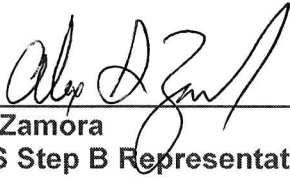
***Carrier Technicians on the Work Assignment List** are considered available for overtime on any of the routes on their string. Subject to the penalty overtime exceptions discussed above, this provision should be applied as follows:*

- *A Carrier Technician who has signed for Work Assignment overtime has both a right and an obligation to work any overtime that occurs on any of the five component routes on a regularly scheduled day.*

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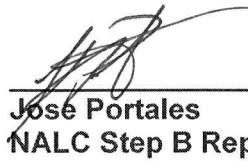
- *When overtime is required on the regularly scheduled day of the route of a carrier who is on the ODL and whose Carrier Technician is on the Work Assignment List, the Carrier Technician is entitled to work the overtime.*
- *When overtime is required on the regularly scheduled day of the route of a carrier who is on the Work Assignment List and whose Carrier Technician is also on the Work Assignment List, the regular carrier on the route is entitled to work the overtime. [Emphasis added]*

The DRT discussed the union's remedy of \$250 to the union and an additional payment of \$10.00 to every affected carrier but did not find it appropriate at this time. Based on its review of the case file, the DRT mutually agreed to the decision and remedy above.



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Alex Zamora  
USPS Step B Representative



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José Portales  
NALC Step B Representative

**cc:**

LR Manager, Southern Area  
NALC Region 10 NBA  
Texas 3 District HR Manager  
Texas 3 District LR Manager  
USPS Formal Step A Michael R. Moreno

NALC Branch President  
NALC Formal Step A Rigaldo Hidalgo  
Manager, Rio Grande District  
Postmaster  
DRT File

**Grievance File Contents**

PS Form 8190  
Barrett's Award (14 pgs)  
Employee Moves Reports (21 pgs)  
Pre-Arbitration Agreements (9 pgs)  
OTDL (2 pgs)  
Request for Information  
AM/PM Control Sheet

Union's Contentions (26 pgs)  
Union's Charts (4 pgs)  
Vice President Gould's Statement  
Weekly Schedule  
Request to Meet at Formal Step A  
Management's Contentions (4 pgs)  
Leave Usage Log List Report

## Payout Request History for Grievance

21231219

[HELP](#)

no data

<p><b><u>Not Processed By Payroll</u></b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New (Not yet sent to Payroll)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending (Not back from Payroll)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitted (Received acknowledgment from Payroll, awaiting processing)</p>	<p><b><u>Payroll Processed</u></b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paid (Back from Payroll without error)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll Error (Back from Payroll with error)</p>
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### New, Pending and Submitted Requests

Status	GATS Code	App Seq	Request Amount	Last Name	First Name	SSN	Relevant PP	Requested By	Date Requested	
New		2	\$13.28	CASTANEDA	JAIRO	7233	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
New		2	\$37.76	FAVELA	RODRIGO	0611	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
New		2	\$41.60	OLIVAS	DANIEL	5744	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
New		2	\$45.43	JORDAN	ETOYYA	8237	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
New		2	\$58.71	MAZUCA	ROGER	9471	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
New		2	\$59.47	GONZALEZ	HECTOR	3098	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
New		2	\$59.64	GONZALES	ERNEST	5355	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
New		2	\$60.05	RAMOS	LUIS	6123	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
New		2	\$60.48	PERALES	ALONSO	6676	PP9 FY2021	KBY9N0	06/09/2021	<input type="button" value="De"/>
Total New: \$436.42										
Total Pending: \$0.00										
Total Submitted: \$0.00										

### Paid and Errors from Finance

Status	Error or Warning	App Seq	Request Amount	Amount Paid	PP Paid	Last Name	First Name	SSN	Relevant PP	Requested By	Date Requested
No Data											
Total Paid: \$0.00											
Total Error: \$0.00											