

NAPS OF NOTE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

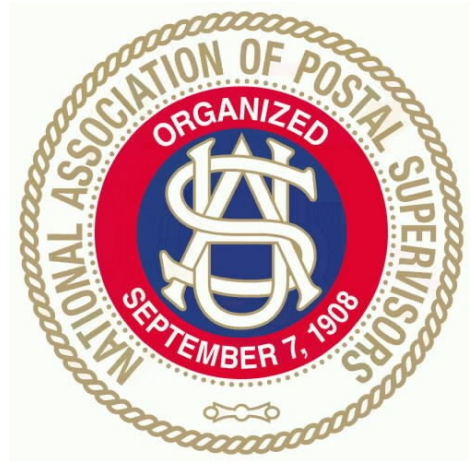
BRANCH 16

PO BOX 580333

MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55458

<https://naps16.org>

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Sept 2024

Branch 16 President's Report

A Message from Branch 16 President

Curt O'Donnell

Dear Branch 16 members,

We had a good time at the National Convention. We re-elected our National Officers and Reno, NV for our next National convention in two years, along with raising the National Dues by \$4.00 per pay period. Note that NAPS HQ has not had a dues increase in 19 years, so well overdue. We also voted on over 85 resolutions for the good of the Association. All the resolutions will be printed in the next Supervisor magazine.

That was a lot in one paragraph. Minneapolis Branch had eight members representing us during the proceedings and voting. We can discuss any questions at the next meeting. We will be voting on a Branch 16 dues increase and would like discussion for you about that. Current dues are \$11.00 per pay period. We are also getting ready for a State Branch meeting / membership drive in late September.

As always, if you have any questions you can reach out to me or come to a meeting for more information.

Curt O'Donnell

NAPS Branch 16 President

cpi012@gmail.com



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All Members



Welcome!

**Next Meeting is
Thursday
Sept 19, 2024**

Next Meeting Reminder!

**Thursday
Sept 19, 2024**

6:00 PM Social Hour / 7:00 PM Meeting

Crystal VFW
5222 Bass Lake Rd
Crystal, MN 55429

See you at the meeting!



Future Meetings NAPS Branch 16:

6:00 PM Social Hour
7:00 PM Meeting

Crystal VFW
5222 Bass Lake Rd
Crystal, MN 55429

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Sept 19, 2024

Nov 21, 2024



State President's Report

Gina Hellermann

NAPS Minnesota State Branch 926 President

Good Day, NAPS Members!

Well, another summer marked off in the books. I hope everyone had an awesome summer and a great Labor Day Weekend!!!

Our National Convention was held in Connecticut this past August. At the Convention your National Officers were voted in and all 5 of our folks were revoted in.

National President: Ivan Butts; National Vice President: Chuck Mulidore; National Secretary/Treasurer: Jimmy Warden; Central Region Vice President: Craig Johnson; and North Central Area Vice President: Dan Mooney. Congratulations to all!

The next issues of the Postal Supervisor will cover the Resolutions and the discussions held at the Convention.

Several folks have come forward with complaints of their live clock rings being changed by their superiors! This is totally unacceptable and if this has happened to you contact a NAPS representative immediately.

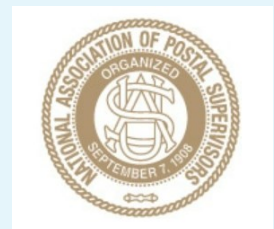
It has also come to my attention we have employees in the field ringing their own time; this is never a good idea as there is always someone you can get to do this for you and, please, *never* use someone else's log on ID to ring your time.

We continue working very hard to get new members but specifically we need active members. Everyone is doing a great job in getting folks involved. The State Board is having a Board meeting on September 23, 2024 in St. Cloud and after we are having a meet and greet with all local State Members and Non-Members.

Thanks and Stay Safe,

Gina Hellermann

President MN State Branch 926
612-239-9038



Secretary/Treasurer State Branch 926

Tamera J. Vail-Rimer

National Convention was held at Foxwoods Resort & Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut August 12-16, 2024.

Monday

Invocation, Memorial, and Host Branch President Welcome.
Connecticut DM Carissa Laino declares "USPS is a national treasure and this convention is a testament to the dedication and hard work of each of you."

Sen. Richard Blumenthal declares USPS is a vital service for all Americans that must be preserved and protected. 23% increase on assaults and theft of carriers/postal employees- they deserve to be safe! Social Security Offset - unfair and undated retirement benefits! Supports Postal Police Reform Act, as well as repealing WEP (Windfall Elimination Provision) and GPO (Government Pension Offset).

National Auxiliary President, Laura Butts: Support SPAC (Supervisors Political Action Committee). Funds provide access to and support candidates - legislative issues and amplify its impact on Capitol Hill.
National Sec/Treasurer Jimmy Warden - Vince Palladino Scholarship
National President Ivan Butts - Welcomes all the first-timers to the convention, introduce PMG Louis DeJoy; 4th year as PMG
DeJoy. Deliver for America Plan: The agency is required by law to be self-sustaining. We have to cover our costs, that's what we are trying to do. May not like it, but ... had to break up the bureaucracy!
USPS is a massive enterprise, an independent agency with 167 million addresses, 9 new distribution centers, 67 processing plants. We are wasting costs - needs to change!

Moving forward the goals are to improve liability, efficiency, effectiveness, increase visibility and tracking, reduce cost by \$34 million, 50 million less workhours, increase 25 million in package business (ground advantage), raise prices. Integrate mail/package business together. New electric vehicles. Nothing gets done without supervision - build alliances and a team. Listen, observe, learn, lead your employees! If you do all this, you will energize our transformation by multiplying our talent.

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NAPS Board 2024

OFFICERS

President

Curt O'Donnell
cpj012@gmail.com

Vice President

Gloria Johnson

State President

Gina Hellermann
bgmn10@hotmail.com

Sergeant at Arms

Mark Hellermann
bgmn10@hotmail.com

Secretary

Scott Choi
scottchoi67@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Bruce Kuiper
brucekuiper@yahoo.com

Legislative Rep

Tashi Lama
tasdawa4@gmail.com

NAPS members must attend three or more board meetings during the year in order to meet the qualification requirement for *Officer* and *Executive Board* nomination. Elections are held every January. All NAPS members are strongly encouraged to attend and take part in the decision-making process.

Newsletter Editor

Ken Gardner

kgnaps16@aol.com



Secretary/Treasurer State Branch 926

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Tuesday

PRC (Postal Regulatory Commission) - Ashley Poling-Commissioner

5 presidentially appointed commissioners for a 6-year term.

Mission: foster vital universal mail system; 1- essential, 2- strong - controlling costs and efficiency.

Bruce Moyer - Legal Council for NAPS

Talked about the lawsuit against the Post Office regarding the 2016 -2019 pay package; still ongoing.

Resolutions: Constitution/By-Laws Committee 1 -14

Wednesday

Day off

Thursday

Vendors...BCBS, AETNA, United Healthcare, GEHA.

Nominations:

Motivational Speaker; Greg Grave - The Chameleon Approach; when we adapt, we survive.

Resolutions: Resolutions Committee 28-86

Vendors: FESA. Postal CU, Signature financial, Dillard Solutions, Carla King; Health Benefits (PSHB), NAPS property Management

Resolutions: continued

Friday

Announcements- 1142 delegates in attendance, 223 branches represented.

Resolutions: finish

Ballot Committee reports: re-instate our national officers for another 2-year term.

National President: Ivan Butts

Vice President: Chuck Mulidore

Secretary/Treasurer: Jimmy Warden

Regional Vice Presidents

Area Vice Presidents

Grand Banquet - evening

We are always accepting members to join these State and National conventions, all you have to do is come to the meetings!!

Respectfully submitted,

Tamera J Vail-Rimer

Secretary/Treasurer State Branch 926



First-Timer for 69th NAPS National Convention

Tashi Lama

Legislative Representative, Branch 16

I recently had the privilege of attending the 69th National Association of Postal Supervisors (NAPS) Convention at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Connecticut. It was my first time participating in this prestigious event, and I wanted to take a moment to share my profound experiences and reflections.

69th National Convention (2024)

August 11-16, 2024 | Foxwoods Resort Casino | Mashantucket, CT



The convention opened with a newcomers' orientation, which set the tone for the week. During this session, we were introduced to the parliamentary process in an unexpected yet incredibly enlightening way—through the "pizza parliamentarian process" guide. I was amazed to learn how such a simple concept as ordering pizza among friends could be used to explain parliamentary procedures. This engaging analogy helped me understand the complexities of parliamentary procedures in a straightforward, relatable manner. I found this to be one of the most profound educational moments during the convention.

The opening ceremony was equally impressive, with appearances from prominent guests such as Postmaster General Louis DeJoy and a video message from Connecticut Senator Richard Blumenthal. Their affirmations of support for the U.S. Postal Service were inspiring, as they emphasized the critical role, we all play in maintaining the vitality of this essential institution. Witnessing these figures lend their voices to our cause was an eye-opening experience for me, reinforcing the importance of our work and our unity as postal supervisors.

Throughout the convention, the process of adopting new amendments for the bylaws and resolutions was another significant learning curve. It became clear to me that NAPS is truly an association of the current and retired EAS employees, where members have the opportunity to propose amendments to the current bylaws and have them voted on by their peers. Not only can members propose changes, but they can also publicly voice the reasoning behind their amendments, fostering a culture of open dialogue and collective decision-making. This democratic process underscored the inclusivity of NAPS, making me realize how important it is for each of us to engage actively in shaping the future of our association.

One of the highlights of the convention was the vote to determine the location of the 71st NAPS Convention in 2028. The two finalists were the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, NV, and Harrah's Resort in Atlantic City, NJ. Since the 70th convention is set to be held in San Francisco, CA, I initially thought Atlantic City would be a more cost-effective option for the following year. However, the majority of members voted for Reno as the host city, which reminded me of the strength and inclusiveness of our collective decision-making process. As we discussed future conventions, I couldn't help but reflect on the fact that NAPS held its 17th convention in Minneapolis, MN, back in 1924—exactly 100 years ago. I hope we'll have the chance to bring the convention back to Minnesota in the future.

I also want to express my gratitude to the auxiliary team members who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that the convention ran smoothly. Their support, both logistical and financial, was invaluable to the success of the event. A special thank you also goes out to the group of sergeants-at-arms, who played a crucial role in maintaining order throughout the convention. I was delighted to see familiar faces like Gina Hellermann and Mark Hellermann from our branch serving as part of this team, and I want to thank them personally for their dedication and hard work.

The sponsors were also an integral part of the convention's success. Organizations like Dillard Financial Solutions and Postal Bluebook Help provided informative presentations, and their generous raffle gifts were a fun highlight of the week. I was thrilled when I received a call informing me that I had won a mini suitcase from Infinite Insurance Concepts LLC—definitely a moment that made my day!

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First-Timer for 69th NAPS National Convention

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The closing ceremony at the grand banquet, with its formal attire and entertainment provided by Rainmaker, was nothing short of spectacular. The high-end dinner and the show were superb, and the atmosphere was one of celebration and camaraderie. Every detail was meticulously planned, and I felt honored to be part of such a memorable event. The banquet also allowed us to connect with fellow attendees at our assigned tables, creating a wonderful sense of community and shared experience. See the picture below:



From Top left to right: Elfnesh Tassew, Scott Choi and Butch Wrazidlo
From bottom left to right: Gloria Johnson, Sherry Mattfield-Kuiper, Tashi Lama and Aricka Sundstrom

As the legislative representative for Branch 16, I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to talk about one of the key legislative initiatives. Reps. Garrett Graves (R-LA) and Abigail Spanberger (D-VA), sponsors of H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act, announced plans to file a "discharge petition" after Congress returns from its August recess. With 218 signatures, this petition could force a House vote on the bill. As of August 26, 2024, H.R. 82 has 325 cosponsors and seeks to repeal the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), which reduce Social Security benefits for public employees, including those in the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS). I strongly urge our branch members to contact their representatives and encourage them to sign this petition to advance the bill. **Scan the QR code** below on this page to log in and send your message.

For those who haven't had the opportunity to attend a NAPS convention, I highly encourage you to participate in the next one in San Francisco in 2026. The experience is truly invaluable, offering both education and camaraderie that will deepen your connection to NAPS and its mission. All you have to do is attend your branch meeting every other month and you will qualify to attend the next NAPS 70th Convention.

Thank you once again to everyone who made the 69th NAPS Convention a success, and I look forward to continuing our important work together.

Sincerely,

Tashi Lama

Legislative Representative, Branch 16



President Biden Nominates Gordon Hartogensis, former Director of Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation, to Postal Board of Governors

September 11, 2024

Naps.org

On September 9, President Biden nominated former director of the Pension Benefits Guarantee Corporation (PBGC) Gordon Hartogensis, to succeed Ramon Martinez IV on the U.S. Postal Board of Governors. Martinez's term expires on December 8, 2024. Hartogensis served as director of the PGBC from 2019 to 2024. His term expired in April 2024. The PGBC is a federally chartered corporation tasked with encouraging the continuation and maintenance of voluntary private defined benefit pension plans. Hartogensis is also the brother in-law of Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY).

With his most recent nomination, in 2024, President Biden has submitted to the U.S. Senate for confirmation to the Postal Board: former Secretary of Labor Martin Walsh (D), former Congresswoman Val Demings (D), former Postal Governor William Zollars (R) and Gordon Hartogensis (R). If the Senate confirms all four, the Board would be comprised of four Democrats (Ronald Stroman, Daniel Tangerhlini, Martin Walsh and Val Demings), four Republicans (Robert Duncan, Derek Kan, William Zollars and Gordon Hartogensis), and one Independent (Amber McReynolds). Moreover, the only remaining Trump nominee would be Duncan, whose term expires in December 2025.

How do I receive credit for sponsoring/recruiting a new NAPS member?

Naps.org

If you are recruiting a new NAPS member who is an active employee of the Postal Service, please include your personal information at the bottom of the Form 1187 of the member you are sponsoring. The Form 1187 includes a section, NAPS SPONSOR, at the end of the form to record your information as the recruiter. Please include your full name, branch number, and mailing address in the NAPS SPONSOR section. When NAPS HQ receives the Form 1187 of a new member, as the sponsor, you will receive a \$25.00 check in the mail. Please allow up to 30-45 days to receive your sponsor award (\$25 check).

You must be an active Regular or Associate member of NAPS in order to be credited as a NAPS recruiter. To be a sponsor, you do not have to be affiliated with the same branch where the new member is joining. Only one sponsor can be listed for each newly recruited NAPS member. If an employee is already a NAPS member, and a duplicate Form 1187 is submitted to our headquarters on their behalf, NAPS HQ cannot credit a second recruiter. If the NAPS SPONSOR section of the Form 1187 is left blank NAPS HQ understands that there was no local recruiter for the application. Executive Board members may be listed as NAPS SPONSORS, but will not receive a sponsor check. NAPS Sponsorship is not recorded or credited for the recruitment of new Associate members. On the Request for Associate Membership Form, there is no NAPS SPONSOR section.

NAPS AUXILIARY MEMBER INVITE

By joining, as a new member, you can directly support your **NAPS (National Association of Postal Supervisors)** member using your Auxiliary voice to assist in NAPS legislative initiatives. Auxiliary members also assist at local meetings and support and promote the Supervisor Political Action Committee (**SPAC**) providing financial support, through fund raising at conventions.

Each NAPS member, in good standing, is entitled to **one Auxiliary member** (over 16 years of age) who may be a **spouse, immediate family member or designated representative**. *(All Auxiliary dues are paid by the local branch.)*

NAME _____

NAPS MEMBER NAME _____

STREET _____

_____ SPOUSE

CITY/STATE _____

_____ FAMILY MEMBER/ RELATIONSHIP _____

ZIP CODE + 4 _____

_____ DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE (Significant/Friend)

PHONE _____

NAPS BRANCH # _____

EMAIL _____

NOTE: Branch NAPS member, please return this completed form to the next local branch meeting or mail to:

Sherry Mattfield, 5016 – 53rd Ave. No., Crystal, MN 55429-3226 (763-486-6310) smatt1956@outlook.com

The NAPS Legislative and Political Affairs Department

Naps.org

The NAPS Legislative and Political Affairs Department is an amplified high-fidelity advocacy microphone on Capitol Hill, at the White House and with the Postal Regulatory Commission. In addition, through the Supervisors Political Action Committee (SPAC), NAPS helps elect and re-elect NAPS allies in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Through the teamwork of NAPS' professional staff, Resident Officers, Executive Board and expansive legislative activist network, the nation's premier association representing postal supervisors, managers and postmasters, educates and lobbies elected and appointed postal policy-makers on issues and legislation crucial to NAPS and the U.S. Postal Service. Through these efforts, the Department builds and strengthens relationships with members of Congress, White House staff and members of the Postal Regulatory Commission. The Legislative and Political Engagement webpages equip NAPS members with the tools necessary to be effective and consequential advocates for NAPS and the Postal Service.

Bulletin Board

Per a 1994 will be posted below. National Convention resolution, the National Association of Postal Supervisors (NAPS) will provide a Bulletin Board for sharing information with its membership.

The intent of the NAPS Bulletin Board is to post correspondence and mail received during the week at NAPS Headquarters. In addition, Board Memos, Executive Board Meeting minutes, and other relevant information

Visit the Bulletin Board at

www.naps.org