



# MAIL HANDLER UPDATE

NATIONAL POSTAL MAIL HANDLERS UNION

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**Paul V. Hogrogian**  
National President

## BOB LOSI TO RETIRE KATIE MADDOCKS NAMED LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL DIRECTOR



**Michael J. Hora**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**L**egislative and Political Director Bob Losi recently concluded his 25<sup>th</sup> SAMLU presentation on October 1, 2019, by announcing his upcoming retirement. Brother Losi has served the National Postal Mail Handlers Union in a variety of positions at the Local and National level, including Treasurer, Vice President, and President of Local 301. In July 2007, Bob was appointed to the National staff in support of our Legislative Department. In March 2009, Bob was named Political Director of our National Union, and he served in that capacity until March 2011, when he was named both Legislative and Political Director, a position he has held since.

Brother Losi has worked closely with his counterparts in the APWU, NALC, and NRLCA to help champion the collective cause of postal workers. Bob's legislative experience and wisdom helped guide the NPMHU's political program. With his leadership, the NPMHU political program pursued favorable legislation while working to stem anti-union agendas. Bob is widely known and respected on Capitol Hill, amongst congressional aides and Members of Congress on both

sides of the aisle. Bob is also a champion of issues affecting our military veterans. He frequently volunteers to support the New England Center for Homeless Veterans, most notably supporting an annual golf tournament that has raised \$640,000 for the charity.

Bob has been a true asset to the organization and will be deeply missed. Please join the Union in offering Brother Losi our deepest gratitude and thanks for his many years of work; Bob's retirement will be effective January 24, 2020. We all wish Bob and his wife Karen the very best.

With Brother Losi's retirement, President Hogrogian has announced that the new Legislative and Political Director of the NPMHU will be Katie Maddocks. We are very fortunate to have Katie join the NPMHU team, as she is an experienced legislative representative. Those that attended the Mail Handlers 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Legislative Conference in June 2019 may recall meeting Katie from her participation in panel discussions regarding current legislative issues, postal finances, and lobbying.

Katie has been working in legislative and political affairs for ten years. She earned a Bachelor of Arts



degree in Political Science from Syracuse University and a master's degree in Public Administration from Oakland University. Katie began her career in the office of Senator Carl Levin (D-MI), after which she worked for multiple federal and postal workforce advocacy groups, most recently the American Postal Workers Union. Over the past decade, she fought for fair pay; defended benefits for current and retired employees; and, protected the Postal Service from privatization. She is excited to continue this work for the National Postal Main Handlers Union. She knows our issues and understands the challenges we face on Capitol Hill. Katie will be an incredible asset to the NPMHU, and we are honored to have her on the team. Katie will begin on January 6, 2020 and will work out of the National Office. Please join us in welcoming Katie to the NPMHU.

### Legislative Update — S. 2965, the USPS Fairness Act Introduced

**S**enators Steve Daines (R-MT) and Brian Schatz (D-HI) have introduced S. 2965, the USPS Fairness Act, on December 4, 2019. The bill is the Senate version of House Bill H.R. 2382, which was introduced by Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) earlier this year, on April 29, 2019. Together these bills would repeal the requirement that the U.S. Postal Service prepay for future retirement benefits through continuing contributions to the Retiree Health Benefits Fund. For years, the U.S. Postal Service has been burdened by an unfair mandate that threatens the vital services it provides. Congress can fix this manufactured crisis. Tell them to pass the USPS Fairness Act.

It is because of grassroots activism like yours that we will save our constitutional right to a public postal service. Since 2006, the USPS has been battered by an unfair congressional mandate, costing it billions every year and threatening

the service needed by the American public. Finally, there's a commonsense solution to ease this burden.

The House version has bi-partisan support with over 290 co-sponsors, which now means, by House rules, it can be voted upon by the entire House.

President Hogrogian emphasized that this is the first step towards righting the USPS financial ship, but surely will not be the last. "We still need comprehensive Postal Reform, but meanwhile we will continue to work with our partners to see this that most needed reform is passed through the House and Senate and signed into law."

President Hogrogian wants all members to contact their Senators to ask them to support S. 2965. Also, members should thank their representatives in the House who have signed onto H.R. 2382 or ask them to support the bill if they already have not.

*Happy Holidays*



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**December 2019**