

Episode 4: Office of Inspector General and Postal Inspectors Investigation

Alright. Welcome back to From A to Arbitration!

Today's going to be a brief one. We're going to talk about the OIG and the Postal Inspectors and their dishonesty.

So, I've dealt with them a lot. I've dealt with them a lot, as far as sitting in on investigations. I've dealt with them a lot, as far as arbitrations. And to me, the most dishonest organizations that we deal with are the Postal Inspectors and the Office of Inspector General. It's sad to say that but it's true. They are there for one reason and one reason only, to find you guilty.

I don't know how many times, we have as a union, called the Postal Inspectors to help us with something and they have refused to help us with something dealing with management. Yet management will call the OIG or Postal Inspectors for something dealing with us, the very same thing that we called them for with management, and they'll immediately jump on that. Because they're a branch of the Postal Service. That's who pays them.

So, if you're dealing with an investigation by the Postal Inspectors or the Office of Inspector General; I understand that they come in there by the two or three, with their badges, and they look official. Don't let that intimidate you. OK? They have to abide by the contract just like management does. They're just there on behalf of management if they're investigating someone.

They will always, always act like they're your best friends. They will talk about management. They'll talk bad about management. You know, I can't believe I'm even in here talking about this. You know, this guy's called me in here to this. I know that what happened you probably didn't even mean to do it. And you know, the carrier's sitting there like right, yeah.

Look these guys are there to get rid of us. OK? So again, when the Office of Inspector General, the OIG or the Postal Inspectors, come into your station and they say they need to speak to a carrier, hopefully, the carrier

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will come and get you. The same rules apply. Do not be a silent observer in there.

If they tell you to be quiet, oblige them, because they're wasting their time after that. If they tell me to be quiet at the onset, they can sit there for six hours and question that carrier. It doesn't matter. We're going to get that thrown out.

But with the Office of Inspector General and Postal Inspectors, make absolutely sure, just like you did or would do with a supervisor or manager, make sure that you write down every question and answer verbatim. That is absolutely critical. Because I assure you 100%, they're not going to write down what that carrier said, truthfully.

You're going to get a report from the Office of Inspector General or the Postal Inspectors. When you read that report, and you were sitting in there with that carrier when they answered, you're going to say, what in the hell were they listening to? This can't be the same thing that they were just in here on with this carrier. Because this is nowhere near what the carrier said. I promise you, that's going to happen.

I've dealt with it too many times. I have just dealt with it with the carrier I was representing. They came up with some synopsis and I'm thinking, do I have the right report? This can't be the right report. It was that skewed.

They're there to get you, and don't ever let him tell you otherwise. Make sure the carrier is truthful, that they can come in there for any reason. Make sure that carrier is truthful. Because as soon as he is untruthful, I promise you, they will show him a video or show him something where he's been untruthful. OK?

So again, when they come in, they are intimidating. They're going to come in with their badges, probably guns, and suits. You know, tell them that you're going to need to speak with the carrier before they go in there. Try to

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figure out if the carrier knows what's going on. Tell the carrier, hey look, you've got to be truthful in here. If it's terrible, be truthful. Whatever it is be truthful, be truthful. Because that's going to help us, believe it or not, in the long run.

So, when they get in there, they're going to have them sign the Garrity rights and all these things and it's scary. And then they're going to be chums. You know, you'll probably be going out to dinner afterwards. That's how they're going to make it feel. But understand they're snakes! Plain and simple! And they're there to do damage. So write down those answers.

I have, the carrier I represented, I have 6 pages, I wrote 6 pages of questions and answers from when we went in there. Then when you get this report, if discipline comes from this report, and I'll talk about this another episode but since I'm on it I'll talk about it now. When you get this report and the discipline, in your request for information, always ask for the handwritten notes of that Postal Inspector or that OIG officer. Always ask for the handwritten notes. Because I want to see what you wrote down. Because it's obviously, like this case I just had, it's obviously not the same thing that was said. And 9 times out of 10 you're not going to get those handwritten notes. So, then you'll put an Article 17 and 31 on that where you didn't get the information you requested.

Again, make sure that the carrier is truthful. They're going to be scared. That's just how it is. Because the OIG and Postal Inspectors, you know, when they come in, law enforcement, federal agents, The carriers going to be scared that's understandable. You protect that carrier. OK? You protect them and you watch over them. And you let them know, hey, it's going to be fine. I'm here with you. I got you.

Write down those questions. Again, if they're going too fast; because most of the time they won't have them written out, they're just shooting off the cuff, but tell them, you know, if you don't mind slowing down for me

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because I'm having a write, make sure to get 100%, right what you're asking. And then, the carrier, have them answer deliberately, truthfully, and write those answers down.

Because again, more than any other organization, they're the most untrustworthy and dishonest. I hate to say that, but I've dealt with them too many times. I've got a site about the OIG misconduct, where they talk about, it's a great site. The arbitrator pegs them pretty good about their reports. How they are misleading. How they'll leave things out or misrepresent what's said. And it's C-28016, C-28016. It's from Arbitrator Irving but talks about the dishonesty of those people.

So, this goes kind of hand in hand with my last episode about the II. This is just dealing with the Postal Inspectors and the OIG. But again, make sure that we're writing those questions and answers down verbatim. Don't be intimidated. Don't be intimidated by anybody. Alright? You have the right to be in there and represent that carrier. Again, if they tell you to be quiet, you know, they're federal agents, you know, they're going to lean up on you, be quiet! OK, I'll be quiet. And then fire that ass up with an Article 17 argument in your issue statement! OK?

That'll be it for today's episode. Hopefully it helped. Hopefully you never have to experience it but if you do, you're ready. Protect your brothers and sisters. Alright, I'll see you next time! Bye.

Corey Walton