

the Branch Secretary, the National Association of Letter Carriers shall provide a suitable lapel pin to such member.

(c). In the year when a member is to complete seventy (70) and seventy-five (75) years and when receiving proper notification by the Branch Secretary, the National Association of Letter Carriers shall provide a suitable plaque for such member.

(d). For purposes of this Article 2, Section 5, membership in the National Alliance of Postal Employees prior to January 1, 1969 shall be treated as equivalent to membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers. Article 2, Section 5 shall also apply to any members who were denied NALC membership after January 1, 1969 and joined the National Alliance of Postal Employees.

ARTICLE 3

Time and Place of Conventions and Special Meetings

Section 1. The National Convention of this Union shall be held biennially in even-numbered years between the Fourth of July and third full week of August. The time and place of the Convention to be held in the year 2020, and all subsequent Conventions, will be determined by the Executive Council of the National Association of Letter Carriers, eliminating the sites of the two previous Conventions. Any materials and/or literature distributed at a National Convention must bear a union label. After a convention city has thus been selected, all further arrangements for the conduct of the Convention, the costs of which shall be borne by the National Convention Fund, shall be under the supervision and

authority of the Executive Council of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Sec. 2. Special meetings shall be called by the President upon the written request of not less than one-half of all the Branches representing not less than two-thirds of this membership of this National Association of Letter Carriers. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify by letter each Branch entitled to representation in the National Association of Letter Carriers, and also every member by a general notice printed in *The Postal Record* stating the object of the call. No other business shall be transacted at said special meeting.

If the object of the call is to raise per capita tax or to levy a general or special assessment on members, the Secretary shall send the aforesaid notice no less than 30 days before the meeting is convened.

Sec. 3. Three hundred delegates, from Branches in not less than 10 states, representing at least 8 percent of the Branches having an aggregate membership of at least 15 percent of the members of the NALC as shown by the records in the office of the National Secretary-Treasurer as of January of the current year, shall constitute a quorum, but less than that number may adjourn to meet at a future specified time.

Sec. 4 (a). National Business Agents shall have the authority to conduct Rap Sessions in their respective Regions, consistent with the needs of the area served, as determined by them.

(b). The National President shall, once each year except in the year of the National Convention, call a national conference. This conference shall be voluntarily attended by only State and Branch

Presidents or their designees, with their expenses to be borne by the State Association or Branch represented.

ARTICLE 4

Delegates to the Convention

Section 1. Each Branch having twenty (20) or less members shall be entitled to one delegate and one vote in the National Convention. Branches having more than twenty (20) members shall be entitled to one delegate and one vote for each twenty (20) members, or fraction thereof. Each State Association shall be entitled to two Delegates-at-Large. National Officers and Delegates-at-Large shall each be entitled to one vote, as such, provided that vote may not be cast for officers.

Each delegate shall be supplied with a certificate of election signed by the President and Recording Secretary of the Branch.

Sec. 2. Each delegate shall serve from the biennial meeting of the National Association succeeding their election until the next biennial meeting.

Sec. 3. At the regular election of Branch delegates, the Branch shall elect the same number of alternates as there are delegates elected; and, at the election of Delegates-at-Large, the State Association shall elect also two alternate Delegates-at-Large who shall be recognized as the delegate in the event of the inability of any delegate to attend the Convention, or of the death or resignation of any delegate. The Branch may elect both paid and unpaid delegates and alternates as long as every qualified member has an equal opportunity to run for both the paid and unpaid positions; provided,

that the alternate who received the highest number of votes shall be assigned to act instead of any one delegate who is unable to attend such Convention; and, when more than one delegate is unable to attend such Convention, alternates shall be assigned in accordance with the number of votes cast for each one in the election, and shall be certified in such numerical order to act in their stead. A delegate and their alternate shall not both be admitted during any one biennial or special meeting. Any vacancy in the office of delegate, Delegate-at-Large, or their alternates may be filled by election by the Branch or by the State Association. An alternate delegate before being admitted to the National Convention shall present either their certificate of election or written evidence from the Secretary of their Branch, or from the delegate for whom they are elected alternate, that the elected delegate is unable to attend the meeting of the National Association.

Sec. 4. National Officers and Delegates-at-Large shall each be entitled to one vote only. The delegates from any Branch present at the National Convention shall be allowed to cast the whole number of votes to which the Branch is entitled, provided such delegates agree unanimously as to who among them shall cast such vote. In case of disagreement, the delegates in attendance shall be entitled to such number of whole votes as can be divided equally among them each pro rata. The number of members for whom per capita tax is paid to the National Association for the term beginning October 1 prior to each Biennial Convention shall determine the number of votes and delegates to which the Branch is entitled at such Convention.

ARTICLE 5

Elections

Section 1. The provisions of this Article shall govern the election of all delegates and alternate delegates to the National Association Convention and to the State Association Convention.

Sec. 2. All qualified regular members shall be eligible to be a delegate or alternate delegate to the National Association Convention or State Convention, except that any regular member who voluntarily or otherwise, holds, accepts, or applies for a supervisory position in the Postal Service for any period of time, whether one (1) day or fraction thereof, either detailed, acting, probationary or permanently, shall immediately vacate any office held, and shall be ineligible to run for any office or to be a delegate to any Convention for a period of two (2) years after termination of such supervisory status. Upon nomination, the candidate must certify that they have not served in a supervisory capacity for the 24 months prior to the nomination.

Sec. 3. All regular members in good standing of the respective Subordinate Branch shall be entitled to one vote for each delegate and alternate delegate position to be filled.

Sec. 4. Election of delegates and alternate delegates to the National and State Association Convention shall be made no later than December of the year preceding the convention year. No less than 45 days before each election, the secretary shall mail to every member at their last known address, notice of the election, stating that election for National and State Association delegate and alternate shall be held and the time, place, and manner for nomination and

election. For purposes of this provision, the requirement that notices be mailed may be satisfied by publication of the notice in *The Postal Record* or in State or Branch publications that are mailed to the last known address of the member.

Sec. 5 (a). Each regular member shall have the right to nominate a candidate for National and State Association delegate or alternate delegate.

(b). Each candidate shall be nominated at a regular or special meeting of the Branch not less than four (4) weeks before the date of the election, but not less than 10 days after the notice of nomination and election has been sent out. A Branch may, however, provide in its by-laws that nominations may be made in writing, with the nomination to be received by the secretary not less than 30 days before the date of the election.

(c). Elections shall be by secret ballot. When there are more candidates for delegate or alternate delegate than the authorized number for the Branch, the election shall be by ballot, and the candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected. There shall be no write-in votes for candidates not officially on the ballot. Any such write-in shall not be counted but will not invalidate the rest of the ballot. Each eligible regular member shall be entitled to one vote for each delegate or alternate position to be filled. Where there are fewer or the same number of candidates as the number of delegates and alternates for which the Branch is authorized, the President may declare that such persons have been elected. Adequate safeguards to ensure a fair election shall be provided, including the right of any candidate to have an observer at the counting of the votes and at any polling place. The National Executive Council is

hereby empowered to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the conduct of all elections in the Branches and State Associations which will provide such adequate safeguards. The election will be held at a regular meeting of the Branch; or a Branch may provide in its by-laws that ballots may also be cast at each station not more than seven (7) days, nor less than one day, before the regular meeting; or that the election shall be by a secret mail ballot. Whenever such elections are conducted by mail ballot, the last date on which ballots must be received in order to be counted shall be considered to be the date of the election. The Recording Secretary shall preserve for one year the ballots and all other records pertaining to the election.

(d). In any election of delegates to the National Association Convention, the President and secretary of the Branch or State Association shall inform the Secretary-Treasurer of the National Association in writing the name of every delegate elected through the registration procedure established by the Executive Council. If delegates to the State Association Convention are elected, the secretary will so advise the Secretary of the State Association utilizing the same procedure.

(e). Elections by State Associations of Delegate(s)-at-Large and alternate Delegate(s)-at-Large shall be as provided in the State Association By-laws.

ARTICLE 6

Officers and Elections

Section 1. The elective officers of this body shall be: a President, Executive Vice President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Assistant Secretary-