

Branch Meeting
NALC Bergen County Merged
Branch 425
May 12, 2026

Held its monthly meeting at the American Legion in Teaneck NJ. President Paul Bounassi called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm and led the members in the flag salute.

Roll call of officers was taken and all members of the Executive Board were present except for Dennis Spoto and John Dudek who were excused.

Minutes from the April 14, 2026 meeting was read, a motion to accept without any additions or corrections was made by Don Jump, this motion was seconded by Brian Gautier.

Correspondence:

Received correspondence from Ridgefield Park carrier Scott Koenig's Family and from Center for Food Action in Hackensack.

Treasurer's Report:

President Paul Bounassi read The Treasurer's Report for the month of April, 2026, a motion to accept was made by Clary James, this motion was seconded by Don Jump.

A motion to postpone The Treasurer's Report for this month until next month was made by Alphonso Jones, this motion was seconded by Ralph Vaughn.

Legislative Report:

Continue to go to the NALC app -Government Affairs to monitor news. Use Take Action frequently.

The main outstanding bills we are waiting for are:

Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R 1065/S.463)

Shipping Equity Act H.R 3011)

Federal Retirement Fairness Act (H.R.1522)

MDA Report:

Received a \$500 donation from Branch 38.

MBA/Health Benefits Report:

Please see Director of Health Benefits/MBA Taejon Hayes for brochure and application.

Retired Members Report:

2027 Retiree COLAs CSRS is 2.9% and FERS is 2.0% as of May 2026. The 2027 COLAs for CSRS and FERS benefits are based on the increase in the average CPI-W between the 3rd quarter of 2025 and the 3rd quarter of 2026. Based on the April 2026 CPI-W the increase in the CPI-W is 2.9%

The projected 2027 Cola for CSRS is 2.9% and FERS is 2.0% The 2027 retiree COLA calculation will be finalized in October 2026 with the release of the CPI-W for September 2026

Discussion of TSP contribution

President's Report:

Collective Bargaining Update:

NALC and the Postal Service have completed 11 weeks of negotiation, with NALC presenting 85 proposals and the Postal Service presenting over 20.

On May 17 the entire NALC Executive Council and USPS's bargaining team will convene in Washington, DC for the final week of the contract to try to reach a deal.

Remarks by Postmaster General David Steiner at the May 8, 2026, USPS Board of Governors meeting.

The Postal Service is in a serious financial crisis and the time to address it is shrinking. The Postal Service needs to do its part to address the financial crisis by reducing costs, improving performance, and increasing revenue. USPS emphasizes the need for Congress to provide assistance in bridging the financial gap.

USO Funding Issue: Revenues and savings cannot cover the costs of the universal service obligation (USO), making the current business model unsustainable. Proposed Solutions: Update public service reimbursement to reflect current realities, increase borrowing authority, and reform retirement plan funding.

Food Drive totals from May 9th

Ridgefield Park - 1400 pounds

Teaneck - 2000 pounds

Hackensack - 1514 pounds

Fort Lee - 2000 pounds

Passaic - 500 pounds

Bergenfield - 2000 pounds

Hackensack Route Inspection:

Consultation with the carrier still going on and waiting for one zone Hackensack which is the largest.

Old Business:

No updates to report

New Business:

No updates to report

At 8:23pm Ron Filera made a motion to adjourn, this was seconded by Valerie Keyton-Barlow.