

Thursday, September 05, 2013

Executive Board Members,

The 2014 mid-term elections are expected to be critical for the control of the Senate and the House of Representatives. Traditionally the party that holds the presidency loses seats in both chambers in mid-term elections. NAPS is currently evaluating the races in both the House and the Senate to determine where our support (and donations) will be directed for the 2014 elections.

In light of the importance of our legislative efforts and the need to expand our outreach to our members, we are in the process of reenergizing and refocusing certain aspects of our legislative activities by selecting five board members to serve as additional liaisons within their respective regions in supporting NAPS legislative initiatives.

We have identified and recruited the following board members to serve on the Executive Board Legislative Committee:

Northeast Region: Jim Warden, New York Area VP
Eastern Region: Hans Aglidian, Mid-East Area VP
Central Region: Kevin Trayer, Michiana Area VP
Southern Region: Jerry Sebastian, Southeast Area VP
Western Region: John Aceves, Rocky Mountain Area VP

Mission Statement:

The NAPS Executive Board Legislative Committee has been established to formalize the Boards advisory role to the NAPS Headquarters Legislative Team. The Committee will serve as a conduit to increase the communication between Headquarters and the membership. To improve participation among NAPS members in contacting their members of Congress and donating to the Supervisors Political Action Committee (SPAC) and provide leadership within their regions in supporting NAPS political agenda and our lobbying efforts at the local level.

Group Objective:

The objectives of this group, along with the resident officers and the Legislative Team at NAPS headquarters will be to ensure:

Information is disseminated to all members throughout the country. Increase our focus on the fundraising programs for SPAC

- . Increase participation in lobbying at the local level with local branches
- . Provide feedback to the resident officers on our political agenda
- . Assist with developing the groundwork for support of political candidates in 2014

Communications:

We recently found that there was a gap in our communications between NAPS headquarters,

our State Legislative Chairs and the Executive Board in disseminating information from the recent Town Hall Meetings that were being held during the summer Legislative recess.

This caused the Legislative Team to determine that we have an ideal opportunity to increase both the level and quality of communications sent to the field from NAPS headquarters through the inclusion of key board members that have been selected to serve on this committee.

Using these key board members as liaisons between NAPS headquarters and local branches throughout the country will provide NAPS headquarters with an important link with local branches and provide us with feedback on our efforts and information to help us to improve our legislative program. We will also include the entire board in the communications processes.

It will be the role of the Executive Board Legislative Committee (EBLC) to reinforce messaging that we prepare at the national level and to provide feedback and ideas to increase local participation in the legislative process. In this initiative, NAPS headquarters will also provide the committee members with communications that will give them the opportunity and latitude to personalize the messaging to enhance their communications within their respective areas/regions.

Information Sharing:

NAPS headquarters is now in the process of developing reports on SPAC activity for top performers in our NAPS regions and states, ranking those who excel in fundraising efforts. We intend to share this information on a regular basis with the committee and board members to identify both our successes and where we have opportunities to improve.

We have also initiated a plan to support board members with talking points and information that they can bring to present at local branch meetings on legislation and SPAC participation. Board members should contact the NAPS legislative Team in advance of a branch meeting to obtain the latest information on legislation and SPAC activities.

Increasing Contact with Members of Congress:

In the coming weeks NAPS headquarters will provide instructions to the field, through the committee on how our local branch officers can get on the local email lists for Members of Congress in their specific districts. We will also be scouring our databases to identify local lobbying opportunities for our members to meet face-to-face with their elected officials "back home."

We also want our members at the local level to increase their communications with their Member of Congress through phone calls and emails about topics that are important to everyone in the postal community.

Developing Incentives:

NAPS headquarters is also developing fundraising strategies, including area/regional competitions, recognition and prizes that will be made available for each NAPS region to increase the support of SPAC. There will be separate competitions for all money raised as well as funds specifically raised through payroll deduction.

We will be welcoming the committees ideas and feedback from the entire executive board as we look to take our legislative activities to a new level.

Jay Killackey
Executive Vice President
National Association of Postal Supervisors