



# TEXAS LETTER CARRIER

Texas State Association of Letter Carriers Newsletter

2024 1st Quarter

President Branch 569 Sanjera Johnson visits Congressional representatives office with NALC fact sheets



TSALC VP Everett Wyllie at Branch 569 regular monthly meeting



Dan Torres Br 421- Director of Retirees, Homer Hernandez Br 421- President, Josh McGuire legislative aide to Congressman Tony Gonzalez, unknown, Esteban Ramirez IV Br 421 and TSALC District 5 Board member Cesar Hernandez



Branch 3964 Installation Congratulations Bill Lopez and new officers



Cesar Hernandez TSALC District 5 Board member at Brownsville Br 1456 regular meeting

TSALC District 2 board member Shelby Clower & his wife Diana at

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Rally in Dallas, TSALC President Carlos Rodriguez Jr and many others



# President's Report

Sisters and brothers, I hope this report finds you in good health. I was pleased to see so many people at Region 10 NBA Spring School in February. I thought the training went very well and I tip my hat to Legislative and Political Organizer (LPO) Anthony Mitchell. He was a great Alex Trebek hosting two different sessions of Jeopardy. As well as his update during the rap session. I want to thank our state board members who were able to assist at the LCPF table educating members about our political fund and helped them sign-up.

I was able to attend the installation of officers of Corpus Christi "Padre Island" Branch 1259 on January 9 th , 2024. I witnessed our National Business Agent Shawn Boyd install Juan Munoz as President along with the rest of the branch officers. I was given to opportunity to share about some legislative bills, and I did have a little back up, Anthony Mitchell, LPO. Together, we tackled many letter carrier issues, education is the key to our success.

I was my pleasure to install the officers of the Odessa Merged Branch 3964 on January 11 th , 2024. The company was awesome, and I was able to speak about the LCPF and legislative bills important to letter carriers. Some members had never heard some of this information and I believe that is why it is so important for us as a state board visit the branches in the state to educate.

On February 22, 2024, I was honored to join the members of Dallas Branch 132 at the "Enough is Enough" rally. Sadly, a member of Branch 132 was robbed of a few days prior to this rally, amplifying the need for congressional intervention. At the rally I did an interview for Univision about how the public can help us and asked them to contact their congressional representatives regarding this issue.

With the introduction of H.R. 7629, the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act, congress has made a step in the right direction to help protect our brothers and sisters. Please contact your member of congress and tell them to support this bill.

The first quarter in 2024 has been busy and I look forward to much more work and educating. I hope you had a blessed easter weekend.

In Unionism,  
 Carlos Rodriguez Jr.  
 President, Texas State Association of Letter Carriers

## Quarter 1, 2024 TSALC Financial Report

### Account Balances

as of 3/31/2024

### TSALC Conv. Fund

TSALC Checking	\$188,949.44	Balance 1/1/2024	<b>\$829.34</b>
TSALC Conv. Fund	\$829.34	January	\$0.00
TSALC Savings	\$100,008.37	February	\$0.00
6-Month CD	\$102,791.41	March	\$0.00
8-Month CD	\$102,984.87	Balance 3/31/2024	<b>\$829.34</b>

### TSALC Checking

Balance 1/1/2024	<b>\$168,731.87</b>
January - 2 Deposits	\$27,236.40
January - 4 EFTs	-\$4,111.42
January - 14 Checks	-\$6,651.44
February - 1 Deposit	\$10,601.20
February - 17 Checks	-\$5,868.20
March - 2 Deposits	\$10,884.06
March - 24 Checks	-\$11,873.03
Balance 3/31/2024	<b>\$188,949.44</b>

### TSALC Savings

Balance 1/1/2024	<b>\$100,005.92</b>
January - Interest	\$0.89
February - Interest	\$0.78
March - Interest	\$0.78

Balance 3/31/2024 **\$100,008.37**

### 6-Month CD

Interest paid in 2024 \$2,242.73  
 Unpaid Interest 548.68

Balance 3/31/2024 **\$102,791.41**

### 8-Month CD

Interest paid in 2024 2984.87

Balance 3/31/2024 **\$102,984.87**

## Vice President's Report

Texas primary elections are over for the 2024 election season. In the 254 counties, voter turnout was very low. But we also seen in a sharp increase in voter registration across the state. Now that the smoke is clear and the stage is set for which will turn out to be one of the most important elections in the United States history, letter carriers will need to do their part by turning out big and voting in the general election. After a long and intense primary campaign, Colin Allred (Democrat) representing district 32 Dallas won the primary election for the U.S. senate defeating another very good friend of the TSALC, Roland Gutierrez (Democrat) representing district 19. This November Colin Allred will face off against the incumbent Ted Cruz (Republican) in which will be a very exciting race. Colin has been a friend of the TSALC since he took office in January 2019, voting 100% for labor workers and unions. District 32 will be open and the TSALC will be watching making sure we replace district 32 with a union friendly candidate. I was giving the opportunity to attend the AFL CIO COPE convention held in January earlier this year. The convention was held in Austin Texas, where unions from all over the state came together to discuss and set the rules on how we will govern legislation in the state of Texas. On the big stage a debate was held between the candidates for the U.S. Senate. I was selected to the nominations committee where we were giving the opportunity to select and endorse Colin Allred to represent the working brothers and sisters of Texas. I'm really looking forward to November, lets get union friendly candidates into office that support the union movement and agenda. A big thank you to Kimetra Lewis and Dallas Branch 132 for inviting me to their monthly Branch meeting. Its always great to see the brothers and sisters keeping their local strong and active. Also a big thank you to Tyler Branch 569 for letting me visit with their Branch. We were able to discuss Texas Legislation and how important it is to join the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF) Newly elected Branch President Sanjera Johnson and myself also was able to visit their congressional district, which is very conservative, we have a lot of to do in their district and Branch 569 is ready for the fight.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Boston at the National Convention this August. Remember if you have not joined the LCPF yet contact your District representative as we get ready for a critical election in November. Visit your Texas State website at TSALC. Org to locate your representative and please sign up.

Solidarity brother and sister!

Everett Wyllie

TSALC Vice President

## Secretary's Report

### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- \* Make a reminder on your calendar to contact your Representative every month on a certain day. Example mine reminds me on the 8th every month, unless HQ sends out a notification to do NOW.
- NALC Food Drive at your local branch **May 11, 2024**.
- Scholarship applications due **MAY 31, 2024**.
- 73<sup>rd</sup> NALC National Convention Boston Massachusetts **August 5 – August 9, 2024**.

*Kimberly Arnhold*

TSALC Secretary

Secretary.TSALC@gmail.com

TSALC Scholarship



TSALC.ORG

WEB PAGE



Texas State Association  
of Letter Carriers

FB page





## Director of Retirees' Report

March 2024

Greetings My Fellow Retired Brothers and Sisters!!

The Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 (PSRA) was signed into law April 2022. Since then, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), in conjunction with the Postal Service, has been working to implement a new Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) Program. PSHB is a new, separate program within the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program and will be administered by OPM. Coverage under the PSHB Program will be effective January 1, 2025. You are **required** to select a health insurance plan in the PSHB Program during the 2024 open season period, which will run from November 11, 2024, to December 9, 2024. If you do not actively select a PSHB plan, you will be **automatically enrolled** in a comparable PSHB plan. PSHB plan options and premium information will be available in October 2024. Information on how and where to enroll will be available as we approach the 2024 open season.

As part of the new Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) Program, you may be eligible to participate in the PSHB Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for Medicare Part B. The PSHB SEP applies to certain retirees and family members who were entitled to Medicare Part A, but not enrolled in Medicare Part B as of January 1, 2024. During the PSHB SEP, eligible annuitants and family members may enroll in Medicare Part B **without paying a late enrollment penalty**. If you are retired as of January 1, 2025, and not currently participating in Medicare Part B, you **ARE NOT** required to enroll in Medicare Part B to continue your health insurance coverage in the new PSHB Program. Participation in Medicare Part B is voluntary; however, enrollment in Medicare Part B may reduce your overall costs for health care-related expenses and may provide greater value.

The one-time PSHB SEP is from April 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024. Individuals eligible for the PSHB SEP will receive notification in March 2024. Once your enrollment is received, it will initiate your Medicare Part B coverage with an effective date of January 1, 2025. All required information must be returned in the envelope provided and postmarked by Sept. 30, 2024. If you have misplaced the notification letter mailed to you or believe that you are eligible to participate in the PSHB and did not receive notification letter, please contact the PSHB Navigator Help Line's Toll-Free Number at 833-712-7742, or email [retirementbenefits@usps.gov](mailto:retirementbenefits@usps.gov) or the OPM at [PostalRetireeHealthBenefits@opm.gov](mailto:PostalRetireeHealthBenefits@opm.gov).

Generally, you will pay a monthly premium for Medicare coverage and the 2024 monthly Medicare Part B premium is \$174.70 each month (or higher depending on your income). You will pay the premium each month, even if you do not get any Part B-covered services.

As always, I am here to help y'all with whatever I can. If you need to contact me, you can call my cell 281-546-7176.

Elisabeth Goodwin, your Director of Retirees

## District 1 Report

TSALC had their District Meetings after the Sundays Classes that were held at The Woodlands during the Region 10 NBA Spring Steward School. It was nice to see new faces and some of the old taking classes. It was also TSALC District Meetings that was held on Sunday after the last class. Thank you for the branches that were able to attend, Houston, Beaumont, Pasadena and Galveston. We discussed the importance of H.R. 5995; this bill would allow employees who began their careers as temporary workers to make catch up contributions to define benefit pensions to cover for the time before they had permanent positions and were unable to contribute to their retirement accounts. We also talked about HR82 which is a bill that repeals the Windfall Elimination Provision and the government Pension Offset that is part of Social Security law that unfairly reduces or at times eliminates Social Security benefits. We also had our primary elections; we now must get ourselves ready for the General Elections this November. If you are not registered to vote or know someone who isn't please get yourself registered every vote is needed.

Thank you everyone, please contact me if you have any questions.

District One

Irma R. Salinas -281-387-7172

## District 2 Report

District 2 Report

972-805-6798 - ritawilder05@gmail.com

2ND Quarter 2024

There are a lot of legislation issues that were support from our congressional representatives. We need **to** get busy contacting our congressional representatives and ask them to support the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R. 7629). Attacks on **letter carriers** involve gun or another weapon. The Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA) **would** deter crime and keep letter carriers safe on the job. This bill would strengthen sentencing guidelines for **these** crimes, ensuring that they are treated in the **same** manner **as** assaults on **federal** law enforcement officers. The NALC supports the Protect Our Letter Carriers **Act**, (H.R. 7629).

The Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (H.R.618/S.131). This bill would expand care options **for federal** employees including letter carriers, who are injured on the job. **The Federal** Employees Compensation Act (FECA) by amending the (FECA) it would allow NPs and PAs to prescribe or recommend treatment, certify the nature of an injury **and** probable extent **of disability** and provide prescribed **treatment for** injured federal workers. This bill would increase the number of eligible providers for **workers' compensation** cases, **making** it easier for injured federal **workers to access the care they** need.

All of the above legislation benefits letter carriers. We need **to contact** our congressional representatives **and ask** them to support the above legislation as a co-sponsor. Congratulation to Congressman Colin Allred for winning the Democrat nominee for Senator and Julie Johnson the Democratic candidate for **the US** House of Representative for District 32. The above **candidates will** need our support in order get a victory in November.

I would like to thank Congresswoman Felicia Crockett District 30 for inviting our brother Eugene **Gates, Jr wife to the State of** the Union address by President Joe Biden. Brother **Gates** die during heat of **the** summer of 2023. Congresswoman Crockett **also** authorized her aide Carmen Ayala to attend the Enough Is Enough rally related to the attacks **on** letter carries.

If **anyone is interested in serving as a Letter Carrier Congressional Liaison (LCCL) for District 32** please contact **Vice President Everett Wyllie** at email **ewyllienalc33@gmail.com**.

## District 3 Report

Greetings Brothers and Sisters

The past three months have been quiet. I have visited Representative Ronny Jackson's office monthly to keep him updated on the HR's that NALC is supporting. To this day Congressman Jackson has not supported Co-Sponsoring any HR's. I am also visiting other Branches to keep them updated on all House Resolutions that pertain to NALC/USPS. It was good to see everyone at the Spring School in Feb. I was glad to see that everyone was doing well. HR82, Repeal of Social Security's WEP and GPO provisions, is still in the Ways and Means committee and we need to keep on our representatives to vote on the HR when it gets to the floor. Just saw in the NALC Web page that a new HR is out. HR 7629, Protect Our Letter Carriers Act, (POLCA). This HR is to protect our letter Carriers from theft and violence. So, get on your Representatives to Co-Sponsor this new HR. There are also two other HR's. HR 376, Door to Door delivery and HR 5995, Federal Retirement Fairness Act need co-sponsors.

Keep up the good work that you all do every day.

In Solidarity ~ Matt Sellmyer

District 3 Board Member

## District 4 Report

GREETINGS TO EVERYONE D-4 Report

Brothers and Sisters, I hope this newsletter finds each of you in good health. Recently it was an honor to be able to visit with so many of you at the NBA School in Houston. Many discussions and questions were on what can we do to improve Texas in the legislative arena. I believe we all agree that Team Work is needed and if we all work together, we will succeed. If you have an idea or suggestion, please let me know. As we head into 2024, we must again come together for another tough year with all the issues going on in DC. Unfortunately, Congress can't seem to come together for the betterment of the people they represent. We must be ready and prepared for the battle ahead concerning the bills before us. Hopefully with this being election year we will have more carriers step up to the plate to help with our continuous battle with Congress. Please remember Team Work is Dream Work.

Please remember to utilize our NALC App as it is quick and easy to contact your Congress person and or Senator. Through the app or the NALC website please find legislative issues and follow the Take Action tab, as this will take you directly to your representative. On March 13 th the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA) H. R. 7629 was introduced. Now please do as stated above and Take Action to ask your Congress person to support H. R. 7629. See I was not kidding, as it is Quick and Simple to contact your Congress person. Now a suggestion is to please take the above action at each of your Branch Meetings, Executive – Board Meetings, Shop Steward Meetings and so on. If we get in the habit of doing this, I believe we will see an improvement here in Texas.

I wish to send out a Big Thank You to all members of District 4 for your continued worked in the legislative arena. I am fortunate and blessed to have so many good friends and hard workers within our district. If I can assist your Branch in any way, please let me know.

God Bless

Proud and Honored D-4 Board Member

## District 5 Report

Hello brothers and sisters, I hope you all are doing well. It was nice to see everyone, was doing well during the spring classes at the Woodlands in Houston, Tx, there was much good information given out on our contract to help and protect our letter carriers. Thank you to those who enrolled in the letter carrier political fund. These upcoming months will be crucial for letter carriers to vote, we as letter carriers need to do our research and support congressional and presidential candidates who support our carriers. Contact your district representative or your Congressional Liaison and ask them who is supporting our carriers. We need to start getting involved politically, so we can have better benefits and retirement for ourselves and our families.

On February 2, 2024 I had a meeting with Joshua McGuire political 8 for congressman Tony Gonzalez (Tx 23) stating that he would support letter carriers. Don't forget to vote and may God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Cesar Hernandez District 5 representative

# District 6 Report

Hello Everyone in District 6,

I hope everyone is doing great. The Spring school was held in Houston, and it was nice to see everyone and catch up. The TSALC board had a meeting on Friday and Saturday morning. An audit was conducted of the books, as required by the by-laws. We then went on to discuss other items of importance. The board also helped with signing carriers to the LCPF and with registration for the school. I would like to thank Shawn and the staff for putting on a fantastic school and the way material for the classes are passed out. No more hauling 25 pounds of paper home after the school. I was able to attend the Austin branch meeting on Thursday night and as always, they had a great meeting. I was able to discuss issues on legislation and how to get more people out to vote. I also heard a report on them working on the state convention which sounds like it is going to be a lot of fun. I would also like to thank brother Less Doss for how good a job he's doing signing up carriers for the LCPF Austin branch. In the February Postal record, it showed that they have a 33 percent membership in the LCPF. How great of an LCPF would the NALC have to work with, if every branch had similar numbers! The TSALC board assigned me to attend the "Enough is Enough" rally in Dallas on Thursday Feb.22. The rally was well attended as union president Renfroe spoke to the media, along with NBA Shawn Boyd about the dangers of carrying mail and being robbed. Lots of news media was in attendance and I was able to see rally coverage for several days on the local news and the newspaper. In closing, I want to once more thank the carriers of District 6 for allowing me to represent them on the TSALC board.

In solidarity,

Shelby Clower

District 6

C D	TSALC Board Position	Branch	First Name	Last Name	City	Cell Phone	E-mail
34	State Chair / President	1456	Carlos	Rodriguez Jr	Los Fresnos	(956) 455-2540	<a href="mailto:carlos.tsalc@gmail.com">carlos.tsalc@gmail.com</a>
17	Vice-President	404	Everett	Wyllie	Waco	(254) 424-6400	<a href="mailto:ewyllienalc33@gmail.com">ewyllienalc33@gmail.com</a>
8	Treasurer	283	James	Kimbrell	Kingwood	(512) 417-9864	<a href="mailto:tsalctreasurer@gmail.com">tsalctreasurer@gmail.com</a>
22	Secretary	283	Kimberly	Arnhold	Webster	(218) 413-3319	<a href="mailto:secretary.tsalc@gmail.com">secretary.tsalc@gmail.com</a>
17	Director of Retirees	283	Elisabeth	Goodwin	Oakwood	(281) 546-7176	<a href="mailto:tx_lba@hotmail.com">tx_lba@hotmail.com</a>
18	Board Member Dist. 1	283	Irma	Salinas	Katy	(281) 387-7172	<a href="mailto:Irma.TSALC@gmail.com">Irma.TSALC@gmail.com</a>
30	Board Member Dist. 2	132	Rita	Wilder	Grand Prairie	(972) 805-6798	<a href="mailto:ritawilder05@gmail.com">ritawilder05@gmail.com</a>
13	Board Member Dist. 3	1037	Matt	Sellmyer	Amarillo	(806) 6747668	<a href="mailto:mjsellmyer@sbcglobal.net">mjsellmyer@sbcglobal.net</a>
19	Board Member Dist. 4	950	Ronnie	Eudy	Abilene	(325) 518-7202	<a href="mailto:ronbr950@gmail.com">ronbr950@gmail.com</a>
28	Board Member Dist. 5	421	Cesar	Hernandez	Uvalde	(830) 279-4501	<a href="mailto:cesarhernandez1977@live.com">cesarhernandez1977@live.com</a>
6	Board Member Dist. 6	2309	Shelby	Clower	Arlington	(817) 319-3817	<a href="mailto:shelby.clower@sbcglobal.net">shelby.clower@sbcglobal.net</a>
C D	TSALC Auxiliary Position		First Name	Last Name	City	Cell Phone	E-mail
	TSALC Auxiliary President		Gaye	Meredith	Duncanville	(214) 336-8968	<a href="mailto:carmer@charter.net">carmer@charter.net</a>
	TSALC Auxiliary VP/ Legis Dir		Linda	White	Amarillo	(806) 290-6576	<a href="mailto:LSWhite.white543@gmail.com">LSWhite.white543@gmail.com</a>
	TSALC Auxiliary Secretary		Beatrice	Fuentes	Dimmitt	(806) 679-2413	<a href="mailto:glycoride@gmail.com">glycoride@gmail.com</a>
	TSALC Auxiliary Assistant to President/Secretary		Carolyn	Meredith	Duncanville	(214) 336-8968	<a href="mailto:carmer@charter.net">carmer@charter.net</a>
	TSALC Auxiliary Treasurer		Carolyn	Vines	Rockwall	(214) 240-9822	<a href="mailto:cvines1951@sbcglobal.net">cvines1951@sbcglobal.net</a>
	TSALC Welfare Chairman		Linda	Becker	Austin	(512) 922-0597	<a href="mailto:graphixavius@mac.com">graphixavius@mac.com</a>
	TSALC Special Project Chairman		Minnie	Requenez	Garland	(972) 900-2075	<a href="mailto:MinervaRequenes@gmail.com">MinervaRequenes@gmail.com</a>



Kimberly Arnhold  
TSALC Secretary  
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HERE

# 2024

## FIRST QUARTER