

Subject: All CPF E-mail - Termination of Mail Handlers Benefit Plan Enrollments

Sent: Saturday, 16 August 2003

The purpose of this E-mail is to share with you the National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU) has notified the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team (BEST) approximately 223 of our serviced employees enrolled in the Mail Handlers Benefit Plan have failed to pay the required membership dues. Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 890.201 (a)(2), provides health plan carriers the authority to terminate an employee's enrollment in a health benefits plan for non-payment of membership dues. The NPMHU notified employees of their delinquencies on three separate notices. The notices (last one sent on 8 Jul 03) advise enrollees that their dues must be paid within 15 days or their enrollment in the Mail Handlers Benefit Plan will be terminated.

This is to advise that BEST will be terminating the Mail Handlers enrollments for those employees who failed to pay their membership dues effective 23 Aug 03. Each affected employee will receive a personal letter from BEST that addresses the termination of their enrollment with an SF-2810, Notice of Change in Health Benefits Enrollment. Employees wanting to continue their enrollment in Mail Handlers must contact the National Postal Mail Handlers Union by telephone at (202) 833-9095 or by writing to the National Postal Mail Handlers Union, 1101 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 500, Washington DC 20036, regarding payment of the membership dues. The National Postal Mail Handlers Union will provide a letter to the employee that states the membership dues have been paid. Employees should fax a copy of their proof of payment letter to BEST at DSN 665-2936 or Commercial 210-565-2936. BEST will then process the appropriate benefits election.

If you receive any inquiries from employees regarding this matter, please direct them to our toll-free BEST telephone number, 1-800-997-2378, or commercial 527-2378 if calling within the San Antonio, Texas area. Benefits Counselors are available Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Chief, Special Operations Division
AFPC/DPCM**