



Tyson Jerome Barnette 1987–2013



On November 23, 2013 City Carrier Assistant Tyson Jerome Barnette was shot and killed while delivering mail in the dark in Prince George's County, Maryland.

We are outraged at this senseless, unnecessary death. Who killed Tyson Barnette? Postal mismanagement killed Tyson Barnette! This tragedy was set up by the dismantling of mail processing and understaffing in the clerk craft, which has forced carrier start times later in the day. This tragedy was also set up by a flawed automation implementation, which has overburdened routes. Letter carriers across America are now regularly delivering for hours in the dark. This tragedy will be repeated without major changes ! !

## WE DEMAND THAT POSTAL MANAGEMENT

\*END DELIVERY IN THE DARK

**\*START LETTER CARRIERS EARLY** 

\*FULLY STAFF CLERK AND CARRIER POSITIONS

\*ADJUST OVERBURDENED ROUTES

\*RE-OPEN MAIL PROCESSING PLANTS **RALLY & MARCH FOR SAFE DELIVERY** JUSTICE FOR LETTER CARRIERS, INJURED, WOUNDED AND KILLED DELIVERING IN THE DARK

MONDAY JANUARY 20 TH (MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY)

5:30 PM RALLY AT MLK MEMORIAL, WASHINGTON DC 6:00 PM March to Postal HQ, L'Enfant Plaza 6:30-7 PM Letter Carriers Speakout

(BRING HEADLAMPS, FLASHLIGHTS, LANTERNS, CANDLES)

On this Martin Luther King Day, we honor his call -- "*All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence."* (Memphis, 1968)

The African American community is particularly hard hit by the fortunes of the postal service, which has a 21% Black workforce. As well-paid career clerk, mail handler, and city carrier jobs are being eliminated, low-paid temp jobs are being created. Barnette, a young Black man, who had worked for years as a "temp" with no benefits, had just suffered a 25% pay cut, was being forced to work in the dark on an unfamiliar route.

District of Columbia Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton, a member of the US Postal Service oversight committee, wrote to the Postmaster General: "I am deeply concerned about the apparent risk of requiring postal employees to deliver mail after dark." Members of Congress should demand face-to-face meetings with PMG Donahoe, calling for an end to delivery in the dark.

Initial sponsors: Communities and Postal Workers United, Community-Labor United for Postal Jobs and Services, Postal Defenders, National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 82

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