

## LOUSY STEWARD

Well Mr./Ms. Union Member, I guess you have me all figured out. I'm stereotyped, characterized, standardized, classified, Grouped, profiled and always typical. I'm the "Lousy Steward."

Unfortunately, the reverse isn't true. I can never figure you out.

From the beginning of your membership, you felt I was the enemy. When management does something you don't like and the contract does not give me the words I need to correct your problem, then I am the enemy. Management isn't considered the problem at all. I'm the "Lousy Steward."

You accuse me of coddling management until I have the words in the contract to force them to reverse their decisions. You know all the Articles in the contract and the PO-603 and you never violate any of them. But when you get into trouble for one you decided didn't apply to you, you feel you are being unjustly accused and again I am the problem because I'm the "Lousy Steward."

You raise "\*####\*!" when the carrier beside you is violating many of the rules we work by, but if I point something out to you that could get you into trouble, I am picking on you. I'm the "Lousy Steward."

You talk to me in a manner and use language that would make your mother blush, but you expect me to stand there and take it without batting an eye. I deserve it. I'm the "Lousy Steward."

You wouldn't think of telling your dentist how to pull a badly decayed tooth or a doctor how to take out your appendix, but you are always willing to give me a few pointers on contract enforcement. Why? I'm the "Lousy Steward."

You have no use for me because I save someone's job and give them a second chance or my phone is busy when you call or I don't return your call until the next day because I took some time with my family or the settlement of your grievance was not all you thought I should get for you. I'm the "Lousy Steward."

When you are issued a "Letter of Warning" that is to stay in your Office Personnel File (OPF) for one year and all I can get management to agree to is to remove the letter in three months, I am the problem, not management, I'm the "Lousy Steward."

So dear Mr./Ms. Member, you stand there on your soapbox and rant and rave about the way I do my job, calling me every name in the book, but never stop to think that your livelihood your future with the postal service might depend on one thing .....Me! Or one of my lousy buddies! Yes, Me, the "Lousy Steward."

