

Ms. Townsend,

Hello, my name is Frank Bollinger and I am the local Business Agent for the South Jersey Area Local 0526 which is part of the American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO. We have approximately 900 members in South Jersey, a majority of whom reside and work within the 1st Congressional District.

I spoke to Ben (the intern) at the office via the phone this morning and he gave me your email address in hopes of setting up a virtual meeting if possible to discuss the many concerns of what is happening to the Postal Service currently under edicts of PMG DeJoy.

1. Delayed mail - as you are aware delaying the mail is a serious matter and technically a criminal offense. Offices within the district and across the country are being placed in positions where certified, registered and first class mail among many other types are being delayed up to days.

2. Overtime - We do inform our members that there is no guarantee of overtime but in the current instant scenario the lack of overtime couple with the willingness to delay mail has led to mail at some offices being staged outside in the employee parking lot. This is unacceptable as I am certain the Congressman would agree

3. Hours at the retail window - The postal service is just that a service based company. Our whole operating budget for decades has come directly from the services that we provide and the availability to sell said services. At many offices within the district and again across the country the Postal Service is reducing window hours from 8-9 hours a day down to 4 hours as well as closing for an hour during lunch time at other offices. I will address the lunch hour first. It may seem like a smart idea to cut costs by dropping 1 hour a day but it is lunch time that a lot of our customers that have stood by us come while they too are on their lunch break. We then look to the other time we see a heavier stream of customers and that is from 5-5:30. People are getting done work and rushing to their local post office, this will not be the case when the office closes now at 12:30 every day.

One of the largest hits for our Local in this matter also is within the 1 st district and that is Camden. Camden has 7 stations/branches under it, all currently operating at around 8.5 hours per day. Their proposal reduces the hours in each of those offices with 3 of them dropping all the way down to only being opened for 4 hours per day. One of those offices is in East Camden, which as you may know is a very low income, high poverty rate area. My members there have told me in the beginning of the month alone they can do well over thirty-five thousand per day in money orders and hold close to that through the month. Most of those individuals do not own cars to go take a ride to a Post Office that is opened later hours in a few towns over.

We truly appreciate the time you have already taken to review the above and that just scratches the surface of what is happening. We also understand that with all that is

going on schedules are tight, we again would be honored to have a virtual meeting but if we could even just have the Congressman's support we would be beyond grateful

Respectfully,

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**The above was an email was sent to Congressman Norcross's office this morning, 7/23/2020. His staff member who handles postal issues called me back at the office within an hour of it being sent. He wanted to assure us that the Congressman is aware of the issues but the added information helped. They are currently drafting a letter in regards to the operational decisions and also will be in contact with the appropriations committee. He said he will keep us in the loop as well.