

## Nov 17 Day of Action Talking Points

Key Message: Postal workers helped defend our democratic rights, making vote-by-mail an unprecedented success in the election. Now as a country, we must defend the Postal Service.

### Postal workers defended democracy

- 65 million people chose vote-by-mail as the safest, most secure way to vote in the 2020 elections
- Amid a deadly pandemic, 2020 turnout was the highest in 50 years, thanks to the safety afforded voters by vote-by-mail
- We made sure every ballot entrusted to the Postal Service reached its destination
  - We worked overtime
  - All the postal unions worked with management to ensure ballots got priority treatment
  - We performed special sweeps of plants, made special deliveries to election boards and had critical election mail task forces at every level of USPS to make sure the ballots got where they needed to be
- **IMPORTANT:** Our commitment to making vote-by-mail work was in service of the democratic rights of EVERYONE, not for one party or candidate.
  - Vote-by-mail shouldn't be a partisan issue. Millions of Republicans, Democrats and Independents voted by mail.

### We must defend the Post Office

- The Postal Service's finances are in a critical state
  - COVID means massive drops in mail volume and projected revenue loss - USPS could run out of money next year
- Louis DeJoy, the Postmaster General, has promised to double down after the election on his policies that slowed down the mail
  - Remember: A new President doesn't mean a new PMG. DeJoy serves at the pleasure of the USPS Board of Governors.
- A strong Postal Service is critical to a healthy democracy, not just in elections, but all the time
  - We deliver 1.2 billion prescription drugs a year - including most Veterans' prescriptions
  - Critical supplies, financial statements, ecommerce especially in upcoming holidays
  - Social Security checks for seniors

### Our demands

- Congress must pass \$25 billion emergency COVID relief for the Postal Service

- \$25 billion has passed the House of Representatives twice. The White House refused to support that measure before the election.
- We must permanently reverse DeJoy's delays
  - Instead of slowing down the mail, we should grow and expand the Postal Service

**What people can do**

- Write or call Congress at APWU Members: 844-402-1001 or Public: 833-924-0085 and demand emergency COVID relief for USPS
- Tell them you don't support DeJoy's delays and want a fast, reliable Postal Service