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One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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December 21, 2023

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza S.W. Room 10300
Washington, D.C. 20260-1000

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

As Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on House Administration, which has broad oversight of our nation's federal elections,¹ I write today to express my deep concerns over a recent report that the United States Postal Service ("USPS") failed to pick up and deliver ballots that were dropped off by voters in King County, Washington, during last November's election.²

For voters to have confidence in our elections, they must have reason to believe that the USPS will pick up and deliver their ballot when they vote by mail. Unfortunately, reports that ballots are not being collected by USPS will ultimately threaten voters' confidence in the system.

As we approach federal elections in 2024, mistakes like those alleged to have happened in King County cannot be repeated. What is particularly concerning about this incident is that USPS appears to have been unaware until this report that this mailbox had not been picked up since mid-October 2023, and that voters had to learn through King County's ballot tracking system that their ballots had not been received. Washington has been an all-mail-balloting state since 2011, making this situation all the more concerning.

In light of these allegations, please respond to the following questions:

1. Does USPS dispute the published account of this incident?
 - a. Please explain.
2. What steps has USPS taken to ensure similar problems do not arise in the 2024 federal elections?
 - a. What specific safeguards or protocols have been put in place to prevent the occurrence of similar challenges in the future, and how do you plan to regularly assess and improve these measures?
3. How does USPS plan to assure voters that ballots cast by mail in future elections will be collected on a timely basis?

¹ Rules of the United States House of Representatives, Rule X(k)(12),

² Sarah Grace Taylor, USPS Failed to Deliver Ballots from One Seattle Mail Drop Box, THE SEATTLE TIMES (Nov. 14, 2023), <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/usps-failed-to-deliver-ballots-from-one-seattle-mailbox/>.

The Honorable Louis DeJoy

December 21, 2023

Page 2 of 2

Please send your response and any questions you may have by January 12, 2024, to Caleb Hays, General Counsel and Deputy Staff Director, at Caleb.Hays@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Bryan Steil

Chairman

Committee on House Administration

cc: Tammy Hull, Inspector General, United States Postal Service
The Honorable James Comer, Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Oversight
The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, U.S. House Committee on Oversight

BGS/ad