

# Communities and Postal Workers United

FALL 2025 -- *No Closures! No Cuts! No Delay of the Mail!* - [www.cpwunited.com](http://www.cpwunited.com)



## TRUMP THREATENS VOTE-BY-MAIL

(excerpts from Times of India, 8/30/25)

"US President Donald Trump announced plans ... to issue an executive order that would make voter identification mandatory and restrict mail-in voting.

"Constitutionally, the president does not have the authority to unilaterally change election rules. The power to regulate the "times, places and manner" of elections lies with state legislatures, and only Congress can override those laws..."

"Trump has previously relied on absentee voting himself, including during Florida's 2020 primaries. His critics argue the push to end mail-in voting is politically motivated, pointing out that Democrats have historically outnumbered Republicans in using postal ballots."

Trump and his followers have repeatedly, falsely claimed that mail-in voting is rife with fraud. However -- according to voters in California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Vermont and Washington state, where all voting is by mail -- there is minimal fraud, maximum voter turnout and the convenience of voting at home. Trump and his followers' agenda is clearly to discourage and suppress voter turnout.

## BALLOTS MAILED ON ELECTION DAY COULD BE THROWN OUT DUE TO POSTMARK DELAYS

Due in large part to delays caused by the new USPS "Regional Transportation Optimization" (RTO), which cuts the number of trucks to a post office from two/day to one/day at 2/3 of post offices, vote-by-mail is being disrupted all over the country. Here's what's happening in Spokane, Washington...

—by *Emry Dinman and Mitchell Roland, The Spokesman-Review (9/27/25)*

"The Spokane County Elections Office recommends that voters should not return their ballots in a mailbox any later than Oct. 31 to ensure they are postmarked in time to be counted.

"The Washington Secretary of State's Office suggests not returning a ballot via mailbox within seven to 10 days from the Nov. 4 election....

"Instead, voters should deposit ballots at a designated ballot drop box, which are managed by the county elections office, or have a ballot manually postmarked inside a post office, according to officials..."

"Spokane County Auditor Vicky Dalton said she has never seen a similar breakdown in her nearly quarter-century managing the county's elections..."

"Washington Secretary of State Steve Hobbs estimated that 30-40% of mail-in ballots come in after 8 p.m. on election day, which is the cut-off time for submitting ballots. For particularly close races... —a wave of disqualified ballots could sway elections.

"State law allows mail-in ballots to be received and still counted after election day, even if they arrive to election workers days later, but only if they are postmarked on Election Day or before.

"The USPS is proposing a policy update stating explicitly that it does not guarantee it will postmark mail on the day it is received. In a written statement, an agency spokesperson wrote that this would simply explicitly state what has always been true.

"The U.S. Postal Service has never guaranteed same-day postmarking ..." the statement says.

"But postal union leadership and election officials say the agency's delivery of mail – and, critically for the upcoming election, postmarking – has been significantly delayed by multiple factors stemming from former Postmaster General Louis DeJoy's "10-year plan" to reform the postal service.

"In prior years, mail from local post offices would be delivered twice-a-day to regional processing centers, where it should be postmarked en masse by machine, according to Ryan Harris, president of the Washington branch of the American Postal Workers Union. Those deliveries have been cut to once-a-day, in the morning, meaning mail sent on Election Day wouldn't arrive at a processing center until the following day."

## NO COOPERATION WITH ICE!

*The Washington Post reported that the Postal Inspection Service had "quietly begun cooperating with federal immigration officials to locate people suspected of being in the country illegally." The article cited documents and anonymous sources and pointed to a video the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) posted online that showed at least one officer clad in a "U.S. Postal Inspector Police" jacket at a recent immigration raid of a Colorado nightclub where more than 100 migrants were detained.*

Click, sign, share... Keep DOGE & ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) away from the Postal Service...  
<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/keep-doge-ice-away-from-usps/>



## NO MORE MAILED SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS OR IRS REFUNDS

(excerpts from *Aimee Green, oregonlive.com (9/29/25)*

"Two major pillars of the federal government — the Social Security Administration and the Internal Revenue Service — will soon stop issuing paper checks to the country's 75 million Social Security recipients and the 100-million-plus households due a tax refund each year.

"Instead, the agencies, with the help of the U.S. Department of Treasury, will pay individuals digitally through direct deposit into their bank accounts. Individuals who don't have bank accounts can receive payments through government-issued debit cards..."

"When it comes to Social Security recipients, that means (close to) 750,000 people received paper checks as of earlier this summer..."

## CANADIAN POSTAL WORKERS STRIKE

by *Jessica Murphy, BBC (9/30/25)*

"Postal deliveries in Canada have ground to halt as thousands of postal workers across the country walked off the job. The ...strike comes after the Canadian government authorised widespread reforms to Canada Post that would shut some post offices and end door-to-door delivery..."

"The strike ... also comes amid an ongoing dispute over pay and benefits that resulted in a weeks-long walkout late last year..."

Postal workers walked off the job to protest what the union described as "huge" service cutbacks announced by the federal government, saying they could result in major job losses...

The new measures include ending door-to-door mail delivery to about four million homes, where they will be replaced by alternatives like community mailboxes; allowing non-urgent letter mail to be moved by ground instead of air and reducing the number of delivery days; shuttering some post offices that were in areas once rural; and giving the service more flexibility to raise prices...

The postal workers' union, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, called the announcement a "direct assault on our public post office, the public's right to participate in political processes, and good, unionised jobs across the country".

*Note: The last time the Canadian government tried to end door-to-door delivery, in 2015, a huge public outcry and militant resistance led by the postal union, contributed to the replacement of the ruling party and the retention of door delivery.*

Contact Your Congress Critter  
Do Not Privatize the USPS—ever!  
Support H.Res.70, S.Res. 147—

<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/do-not-privatize-the-usps->



# USPS CLOSING SMALL POST OFFICES ACROSS THE U.S.

by Gabriela Leon, [msn.com](http://msn.com), September, 2025 (excerpts)

With no broad public announcement, USPS management has embarked on a campaign of cutting back on the Contract Postal Units, businesses which offer postal services under PO direction in underserved areas, mostly in rural America.

The closings are coming on very short notice, and none of the announcements indicate that new actual Post Offices will be opened to replace them. Once again the USPS pledge to serve every address every day is being undermined.

"For residents who have come to rely on these convenient postal units, the closures represent more than a service interruption, they represent a loss of community connection.

"The closures primarily target Contract Postal Units, mini post office setups found inside retail stores such as hardware shops, general stores, or pharmacies. Unlike standard USPS branches, these CPUs are not staffed by postal employees, but by the host business's own team. While CPUs offer fewer services than full-service USPS branches, they are often the only postal resource in small towns or rural areas.

"Although there has been no official government announcement, reports indicate that the CPU closures are part of a cost-cutting strategy. According to a USPS spokesperson interviewed by *Fox 10*, the closures aim to provide communities with "efficient and reliable access to retail services". Still, many local operators and residents are skeptical about how removing existing services will improve access.

"Local news reports have confirmed upcoming CPU shutdowns in at least seven states: Arizona, Illinois, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Washington.

**Editors Note:** While we decry any loss of post offices, we want all post offices to be owned by the public postal service, employing unionized postal workers.

## OIG LOOKS AT POST OFFICE NETWORK

Excerpted from OIG Report 9/26/25

Throughout the 250-year history of the Postal Service, local post offices have been one of the most visible parts of the agency and a critical component of binding the nation together.

Today, the Postal Service's brick-and-mortar retail network is the largest in the U.S., with over 33,000 locations. The expansive reach of the post office network fulfills the statutory universal service obligation (USO) and is an asset for USPS, allowing for convenient customer access and faster last-mile delivery.

The Postal Service's retail network overall covers its costs, generating \$9.3 billion in revenue with costs of \$6.3 billion in FY 2024. However, more than half of individual locations do not cover their costs and make the dual mandate to provide universal service while being financially self-sustainable more challenging.

As letter mail declines and package volume increases, there are opportunities to consider strategies to more effectively balance costs with customer access. When the Post Office Department became the Postal Service in 1971, Congress mandated that the agency be financially self-sustaining. Congress gave the Postal Service the power to manage its post office network but also established guardrails to protect rural service: a small post office could not be closed simply for being unprofitable. This limitation remains in place today.

## KEEP UP ON THE LATEST FIGHTBACK!

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Susan Robinson at American Postal Workers Union protest in Oakland, California, September 18, 2025

Post offices managed directly by the Postal Service, rather than a third party, make up more than 90 percent of the post office network. Since 2000, there has been a 12 percent decline in the overall footprint of the post office network but much more significant declines in both customer use and revenue. Customer visits fell by more than half

and walk-in stamp revenue – which once generated over \$9 billion per year – fell by two-thirds. At the same time, the Postal Service expanded alternate access channels like [usps.com](http://usps.com), Self-Service Kiosks, and Approved Shippers. These services increase customer access to post-

al services, but in recent years, revenue from these channels also declined.

Though the Postal Service has developed and implemented initiatives related to improvement and modernization of its retail network and services, the agency does not currently have a clear and comprehensive strategy to evolve the post office footprint to align with changing populations or shifts in mail demand. Since 2000 the U.S. population grew by about 58 million people, and some states experienced more than 50 percent population growth during that time. Simultaneously, demand for letter mail declined dramatically while package volume exploded due to ecommerce trends. Despite these changes, the nationwide post office network has remained mostly static.

Many international posts have kept the number of post offices relatively stable over the last decade, as legal criteria and demanding procedures limit downsizing... Finally, almost all the posts studied offer

diversified services beyond their postal functions, including financial services, identity services, and partnerships with other government agencies.

## Conclusion

Since 2000, broader efforts to control retail costs through post office closure, consolidation, or outsourcing have encountered strong resistance from stakeholders, limiting the Postal Service's ability to adjust its footprint.

Currently, the Postal Service's retail efforts are focused on expanding parcel services and exploring opportunities to offer government services at post offices. Looking ahead, the Postal Service will need a forward-looking strategy to manage this extensive legacy network. (The full report is available at <https://www.uspoig.gov/sites/default/files/reports/2025-09/risc-wp-25-006.pdf>)

The **FEDERAL UNIONIST NETWORK** represents federal workers, 700,000 of whom were recently stripped of their union rights and tens of thousands are losing their jobs. Their fate and those of postal workers (and all workers) are intimately connected. To join the fight-back, go to [https://www.federalunionists.net/](http://www.federalunionists.net/)

