

## Statement of “Save Your Local Post Office”

**We are here today** to say to the Postmaster General and the United States Congress, that the Postal Service belongs to “**We the People**” of the United States, and that **we will** continue to fight to maintain good postal service. No one, not the Postmaster General, not Congress and not the Wall Street corporations and profiteers will be allowed to take our Postal Service from us! **We are here** today to tell the Postmaster General that there will be no more business as usual regarding post office and sorting facility plant closures. **The fight will not end** when he turns out the lights; **we will hold him accountable** and **we will not rest** until this plant behind me is reopened and our mail service is restored to the level we once enjoyed.

Since the Postmaster General closed the Frederick Mail Sorting Facility here on Tilco Drive, mail service to residents and businesses as far west as Oakland and as far east as Elkton including Frederick, Hagerstown, and Baltimore has deteriorated to unacceptable levels. Business owners now struggle to get sale papers to their customers before the sale is over, residents wonder if their medication will arrive before they run out, churches cannot get bulletins to parishioners and customers cannot mail bill payments without being hit by late fees. Incredibly, even many Postal Service employees hesitate to depend on the Postal Service to deliver their important, time sensitive personal mail!

The closure of the Frederick mail processing facility is part of a national assault on efficient, economical and universal postal services to the American people. **Using the outright lies**, that the United States Postal Service is financially bankrupt and obsolete, **the enemies** of the Peoples’ Postal Service seek to destroy the USPS in order to justify future privatization and create private profit to enable the rich to get even richer. What the **American people** can expect from a successful dismantling of the Postal Service is massive job losses, damage to the economy and poor, unreliable postal services. In a time of economic crisis, the Postmaster General’s plan, if implemented will eliminate good, family supporting jobs by the tens of thousands.

Twenty-five percent of Postal Workers are veterans, who enlisted in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or National Guard. Courageous Men and Women who served and fought for our country in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan to protect us from foreign enemies & terrorists. At a time when thousands of our troops, are returning home in need of employment, the Postmaster General seeks to eliminate opportunities for employment with the Postal Service, traditionally a place for our veterans to find work.

A least one complaint has been filed with the U.S. Postal Service Office of the Inspector General regarding the events surrounding the November “consolidation” with the Processing and Distribution Plant in Baltimore, alleging intentional delay of mail and criminal misconduct. Just in the last few days, a complaint was filed with the OIG based on eyewitness reports by Postal Service employees that a management official within the Baltimore District falsely labeled large quantities of first class mail, last week, as “delivery attempted” and then placed them in the recycling system to be destroyed. There had been no attempt to even deliver that mail. The Postmaster General is ultimately responsible for the results of his “Optimization” plan and must be held accountable, along with any management officials who intentionally delay United States Mail.

**The American People** are witnessing an attempt to pull off the greatest swindle in the history of our Nation, larger and wider in scope than Enron and Bernie Madoff combined, the theft of an entire National Institution and Treasure enshrined in the Constitution of the United States of America since 1776. The Postal Service, which uses no tax dollars, has served the People for over two centuries, is the linchpin of the \$1 trillion mailing industry, vital for commerce and supports over 7 million jobs. It will not be sacrificed for the sake of Wall Street criminal investment opportunities and private profits!

Therefore, today make the following demands:

1. **We Demand** that the United State Congress immediately relieve the Postal Service of the outrageous mandate to prefund retiree healthcare cost 75 years in advance!
2. **We Demand** that the Postal Service be given immediate access to pension overfunding so it may be used to stabilize, enhance, and protect the People's Postal Service!
3. **We Demand** the immediate resignation of Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe and that he must replaced with a Postmaster General that will protect and defend the United States Postal Service for the good of the people!
4. **We Demand** the reopening of the United States Postal Service Frederick, Md Processing and Distribution Center and the restoration of excellent postal services now!
5. And finally, **We Demand Criminal Prosecution** of all postal officials, up to and including the Postmaster General, who are responsible for the delay of mail in violation of 18 U.S. Code Section 1703 under federal law !!!