

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

We are writing to convey the growing frustrations with disruptions in mail delivery services through the United States Postal Service (USPS). Over the last few months, we have heard from constituents all over Greater Minnesota about mail delays, some not receiving their mail for weeks at a time. In one specific example, a constituent from Brainerd, MN did not have mail delivered to her house for over three weeks. These complaints only grew in number and desperation during the Christmas season.

This is unacceptable. Rural Minnesotans rely on the reliable and consistent service of the USPS to pay their bills, get their medications, and operate their small businesses. Additionally, these disruptions could not have come at a worse time as many Christmas cards and gifts for friends and family will now be received late, if at all.

We have heard that at the root of these disruptions are major staffing shortages, which are affecting almost all businesses and industries nationwide. We know that our Postal workers and mail carriers are some of the hardest working and dedicated employees, and we commend those that have been working overtime, sacrificing their own time with family, to fill in the gaps. Without adequate staffing levels, we are concerned that these workers will be stretched even thinner, leading to burnout and further delays.

To help get a better understanding of how the USPS is working to remedy these concerns, we ask for a timely response to the following questions:

- What strategies are being implemented at the USPS to help local Post Offices, especially those in rural areas, resolve the current backlog of mail in order to return to a regular and consistent mail delivery schedule?
- What is the USPS doing to help address the staffing shortages at local Post Offices across Minnesota? Specifically, what is being done to boost hiring, training, and retention of Postal Workers?

Thank you in advanced for your attention and timely response to the above questions. It is imperative that these delivery delays and disruptions are swiftly resolved, and Minnesotans can once again rely on consistent and reliable USPS services.

Sincerely,



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress



Brad Finstad
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress