

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 24, 2026

The Honorable David Steiner
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General Steiner:

I am writing to reiterate my call for your resignation as Postmaster General of the United States Postal Service.

This is not the first letter I have sent you on this matter. Since the Postal Service first moved to restrict the delivery of election mail and absentee ballots, I have repeatedly warned you about the consequences of this policy. I wrote to you in April, when the policy was first proposed, and again as it advanced, urging you to reconsider a rule that would place the Postal Service in an unprecedented gatekeeping role over whether and when voters receive their ballots. You had every opportunity to change course.

Instead, on August 21, 2026, you finalized the rule anyway — despite an active federal court order expressly prohibiting you from completing that very rulemaking. On August 11, Judge Indira Talwani barred you by name from “initiating or completing rulemaking to promulgate” this rule.¹ Ten days later, at approximately 9:00 p.m. on a Friday night, the Postal Service completed the 95-page rule, scheduling it to take effect before it could even be published in the Federal Register.²

This is not a close call. It is not a technical disagreement over the scope of a court order. A federal judge ordered you not to complete this rulemaking, and you completed it anyway.

What makes this even more troubling is that you previously assured Congress that you would do otherwise. At a June hearing before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, you stated that the Postal Service “would comply with any court orders regarding voting by mail.”³ You reiterated that assurance days later. Those were not casual remarks. They were commitments made under oath before the congressional committee responsible for overseeing your agency.

Yet when confronted with a federal court order prohibiting you from completing this rulemaking, you did precisely that. The Postal Service has now finalized a policy that remains blocked by two federal injunctions. Your own agency has acknowledged that it lacks the legal authority to implement the policy for the 2026 election absent further relief from the courts.⁴ Nevertheless, you chose to finalize the rule while those legal restrictions remain in place.

That decision has fundamentally undermined the trust required of the Postmaster General. The stakes could hardly be higher. The Postal Service is entrusted with delivering Americans’ election mail fairly, reliably, and without partisan interference. Voters should never have to wonder whether the agency responsible for

¹ <https://www.democracydocket.com/news-alerts/court-must-enforce-injunction-blocking-usps-from-finalizing-rule-restricting-mail-voting-says-voting-rights-groups/>

² <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/08/21/us/politics/postal-service-rule-restrict-mail-ballots.html>

³ <https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/5943390-usps-mail-ballots-trump-order-voter-data/>

⁴ <https://www.reuters.com/world/us-postal-service-issues-rules-tighten-mail-in-voting-if-court-gives-ok-2026-08-22/>

delivering their ballots is being used to advance a political agenda or whether its leadership will comply with the orders of the federal courts.

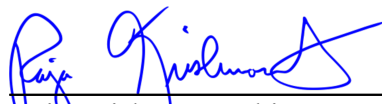
Your decision has made that question unavoidable. The administration is now asking the Supreme Court to overturn the lower courts' rulings and clear the way for this policy.⁵ Rather than respecting the judicial process and allowing the courts to resolve the matter before proceeding, you have finalized the rule while that litigation remains pending. By doing so, you have placed the Postal Service in the position of advancing a policy that it cannot lawfully implement today and that federal courts have already enjoined.

That is unacceptable. A Postmaster General who tells Congress under oath that he will comply with federal court orders, and then completes the very rulemaking that a federal judge ordered him not to complete, has forfeited the confidence necessary to lead the United States Postal Service.

I have previously stated publicly that you should resign. Your actions since then have only reinforced that conclusion. So I am reiterating that call directly to you: you should resign as Postmaster General.

The American people deserve a Postal Service that follows the law, respects the authority of the federal courts, and remains a trusted and neutral institution for every voter — regardless of party. The millions of Americans who will rely on the Postal Service to deliver their ballots this November deserve nothing less. I look forward to your response by August 31st.

Sincerely,



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

⁵ <https://www.latimes.com/politics/story/2026-08-12/trump-again-asks-supreme-court-to-save-usps-mail-ballot-plan-after-second-lower-court-loss>