



April 15, 2020

The Honorable Mike Pence
Vice President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C 20500

The Honorable Megan J. Brennan
Postmaster General/Chief Executive Officer
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Vice President Pence and Postmaster General Brennan:

We write to you to express our great concern regarding the health and safety of postal workers and the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on mail delivery in New York City. The postal service's offerings are an essential service for millions of Americans in the maintenance of their daily lives. During a national pandemic such as this, it is beyond important for many who rely on the postal service to deliver critical supplies and packages when they are unable to shop for them in a normal manner. The hard work of each and every postal employee is helping this country continue to function during these difficult times, and we commend the Americans who go to work every day to provide a critical service to their neighbors.

Notwithstanding the Service's pre-existing challenges, the postal service is under particular strain in densely populated areas, such as the Bronx amid the coronavirus pandemic. We hear from constituents daily on an array of postal issues, ranging from not receiving their mail, to not receiving information from their post office regarding protocols and updates on how to attain services during the pandemic. The lack of updated and transparent information on postal procedures has upset many of our constituents and furthers their concern that they will be unable to receive crucial letters, bills, checks, and packages from the post office. Constituents enrolled in Informed Delivery have been particularly concerned when they receive a mail notice, but the mail does not arrive.

Furthermore, we are concerned of the health risks posed to postal service employees due to nationwide lack of personal protective equipment (PPE), as well as the hazard of our constituents visiting post offices in order to receive and send mail. We understand the importance of maintaining essential operations in order to provide the crucial service of the postal service, but we want to ensure that guidelines are in place so that unnecessary risk to employees and customers is minimized to the fullest extent possible.

As such, we ask for your swift response providing the following information:

- How is the postal service adapting to the worker shortages, given the need to ensure health and safety of employees? Given the increase demand and necessary safety precautions, how is the postal service promoting full operations and that mail continues to be delivered in a timely manner?

- What guidelines is the postal service providing to post offices to ensure maximum transparency and that their customers receive accurate and reliable information as to post office operations and any delays in services? How is the postal service ensuring there is a system-wide plan in operation at every post office, and that Americans are kept informed about postal operations?
- We understand that the postal service has a nationwide policy guaranteeing masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer to employees upon request. Given nationwide shortages of PPE, what is the current status of sufficient materials for employees and facilities to ensure optimal safety and health of employees and customers?

We are proud and thankful of the hard-working postal service employees who have continued to go to work and deliver mail during these trying times. Their service is invaluable to our constituents and all Americans. We thank you for your attention to our concerns, and await your response.

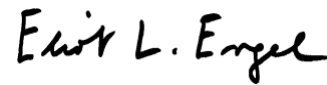
Sincerely,



Jeffrey Dinowitz
NYS Assembly



Adriano Espaillat
U.S. House



Eliot Engel
U.S. House



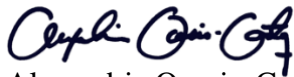
Ruben Diaz Jr.
Bronx Borough President



Jamaal Bailey
NYS Senate



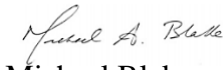
Andrew Cohen
NYC Council



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
U.S. House



Michael Benedetto
NYS Assembly



Michael Blake
NYS Assembly



Marcos Crespo
NYS Assembly



Nathalia Fernandez
NYS Assembly



Latoya Joyner
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Karines Reyes
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Jose Rivera
NYS Assembly



Alessandra Biaggi
NYS Senate



Gustavo Rivera
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Jose M. Serrano
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Mark Gjonaj
NYC Council