

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
MINORITY (202) 225-5051

<https://oversight.house.gov>

March 31, 2025

Ms. Amber F. McReynolds
Chair, Board of Governors
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Ms. McReynolds:

We write regarding significant recent developments within the U.S. Postal Service (Postal Service) that call into question this public institution's stability, integrity, and independence. These concerns include repeated calls by President Trump and senior public officials to reorganize the Postal Service, a back-room agreement with Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) representatives, and the sudden resignation of Postmaster General Louis DeJoy. We respectfully request that the chair and vice chair of the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors (the Governors) provide an immediate briefing on Postal Service operations and activities since January 20, 2025, including the Postmaster General's agreement with DOGE and the General Services Administration (GSA) and the Postmaster General's sudden departure thereafter.

On December 14, 2024, the *Washington Post* reported that President Trump was considering actions to privatize the Postal Service. On February 20, 2025, further reporting indicated that President Trump was preparing to fire the bipartisan Postal Board of Governors and unlawfully "merge" the Postal Service into the Commerce Department, "potentially throwing the 250-year-old mail provider and trillions of dollars of e-commerce transactions into turmoil."¹

On March 13, 2025, Members of Congress learned that Postmaster General DeJoy signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with "DOGE representatives" and GSA to assist the Postal Service in "identifying and achieving further efficiencies."² On March 18, 2025, Ranking

¹ *Trump Eyes Privatizing U.S. Postal Service Citing Financial Losses*, The Washington Post (Dec. 14, 2024) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/12/14/trump-usps-privatize-plan/); *Trump expected to take control of the USPS, fire postal board, officials say*, The Washington Post, (Feb. 21, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/business/2025/02/20/trump-usps-takeover-dejoy/).

² Letter from Postmaster General Louis DeJoy to The Honorable James Comer, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, et al. (Mar. 13, 2025) (online at https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/democrats-oversight.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/pmg-dejoy-to-congressional.leaders_3.13.2025.pdf).

Member Connolly sent a letter to the Postal Service requesting documents and information regarding the agreement entered into by then Postmaster General DeJoy, DOGE, and GSA, and details of plans or actions taken by DOGE at the Postal Service.³ Two days later, the Postal Service provided an initial response stating that employees designated by the agreement had been provided badges to enter the building but, as of March 20, 2025, “no system access has been granted.”⁴

On March 24, 2025, the *Washington Post* reported that “[r]ecent tension between DeJoy and the Trump administration over the work of the U.S. DOGE Service contributed to the White House’s antipathy toward the mail chief.”⁵ The reporting highlighted that the former Postmaster General “refused to give [DOGE officials] broad access to agency systems, according to four people familiar with the interactions.”⁶ However, we remain concerned that the true intentions and activities of DOGE at the Postal Service, and any plans for additional intrusion, remain unknown.

Elon Musk claims that all of DOGE’s actions are “maximally transparent,” but Congress and the American people have no real insight into the actual operations of DOGE.⁷ Meanwhile, DOGE’s plans to strip agencies to their bare bones, gut the federal workforce, and close offices have led to major disruptions in critical benefits and services for some of the most vulnerable Americans. For example, Mr. Musk admitted that DOGE accidentally cancelled Ebola prevention efforts; DOGE’s cuts to the Social Security Administration have created a crisis for 73 million Social Security beneficiaries; and DOGE’s cuts at the National Weather Service could put public safety and weather forecasting at risk.⁸ Based on the chaos left in DOGE’s wake, we

³ Letter from Gerald E. Connolly to Mr. Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General, U.S. Postal Service (Mar. 18, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/democrats-oversight.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/2025-03-18.gec-to-usps-re-doge-agreement.pdf>).

⁴ Letter from Mr. Peter Pastre; Vice President Government Relations and Public Policy; U.S. Postal Service, to Ranking Member Gerald E. Connolly, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Mar. 20, 2025). Note that the Committee considers this response unsatisfactory and has reminded the Postal Service of its obligations to comply with all document and information requests by the Committee. *Id.*; Email from Democratic Staff, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to Government Relations and Public Policy, U.S. Postal Service (Mar. 21, 2025).

⁵ *USPS Chief Louis DeJoy Resigns as Trump Eyes Overhauling Mail Agency*, The Washington Post (Mar. 24, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/business/2025/03/24/louis-dejoy-steps-down-usps-chief/).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Courts Force A Window into Musk’s Secretive Unit*, New York Times (Feb. 18, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/18/us/politics/doge-lawsuits-elon-musk.html); *DOGE’s Team’s “Wall of Receipts” Shows Errors in Tallying Billions in Savings*, CBS News (Feb. 19, 2025) (online at www.cbsnews.com/news/doge-wall-of-receipts-shows-errors-tallying-billions-in-savings/).

⁸ *Trump Expects to be “Satisfied” With DOGE Cuts in Few Months*, Bloomberg (Mar. 24, 2025) (online at www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2025-03-24/trump-expects-to-be-satisfied-with-doge-cuts-in-a-few-months/); *Musk Says DOGE ‘Restored’ Ebola Prevention Effort. Officials Say That’s Not True*, Washington Post (Feb. 27, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/02/26/elon-musk-ebola-prevention-usaid-doge/); *Long Waits, Waves of Calls, Website Crashes: Social Security is Breaking Down*, The Washington Post (Mar. 25, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/03/25/social-security-phones-doge-cuts/); *Experts Say U.S. Weather Forecasts Will Worsen as DOGE Cuts Mean Fewer Balloon Launches*, Associated Press (Mar. 22, 2025).

have reason to believe that any DOGE effort to restructure the Postal Service could have a detrimental effect on the American people—jeopardizing the timely delivery of life-saving medications, mail-in ballots, important financial documents, and personal letters, especially in rural or less-profitable areas that the private sector does not serve.⁹

In his final public statement as Postmaster General, Mr. DeJoy highlighted that the Governors are working to appoint a permanent successor, and “have hired a search firm in support of those efforts, which are well underway.”¹⁰ While the President seeks to consolidate power into the executive, we remind you that federal law defines the Postal Service as an independent agency and requires the Postal Board of Governors—not the President—to appoint the Postmaster General.¹¹ The background, experience, values, and integrity of the person who takes the heavy burden of Postmaster General are crucial to the Postal Service’s success. At a time when the Postal Service is facing ongoing declines in mail, a simultaneous reorganization of the postal network, concerns about long-term financial stability, and threats to the agency’s independence, the next Postmaster General must be prepared to defend the institution and its universal service obligation to all Americans.

Recent events involving President Trump and Musk’s DOGE raise serious questions about the stability and integrity of the Postal Service. We respectfully request that you provide an immediate briefing to Committee staff to provide information on, but not limited to:

1. The status of the Governors’ search for a new Postmaster General and whether Mr. DeJoy’s sudden departure will affect the Governors’ efforts;
2. If the Board is aware of any efforts by Commerce Department officials or anyone in the Trump Administration to interfere with or influence the Governors’ search for a new Postmaster General;
3. Any efforts by the Trump Administration to remove the Governors or move the Postal Service into the Commerce Department;
4. Any agreement or MOU signed between the Postal Service, GSA, or other DOGE employees or affiliates; and
5. All interactions between representatives of the Trump Administration, GSA/DOGE employees, other DOGE employees or affiliates, and the Postal Service or the Governors.

(online at <https://apnews.com/article/weather-forecasts-worsen-doge-trump-cuts-tornado-da573a044916c06cecbdb92b1f1452e6>).

⁹ See U.S. Postal Service Office of the Inspector General, *The Importance of the Postal Service in Rural Areas* (Apr. 18, 2022) (online at www.uspsoig.gov/focus-areas/focus-on/importance-postal-service-rural-areas).

¹⁰ U.S. Postal Service, *Postal Service Postmaster General/CEO Leadership Transition* (Mar. 24, 2025) (online at <https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2025/0324-usps-pmg-ceo-leadership-transition.htm>).

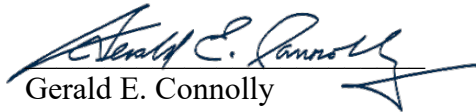
¹¹ 39 U.S. Code § 202.

In addition to this initial briefing, we request that you provide Committee staff with regular briefings every two weeks to ensure that Congress maintains a continuous understanding of the Governors' awareness, oversight, and role in managing these alarming reports and potential vulnerabilities within this critical public institution. We also urge you to require the Acting Postmaster General to provide the Governors with regular briefings on any activities conducted by, at the request of, or in partnership with GSA/DOGE employees, beginning April 14, 2025.

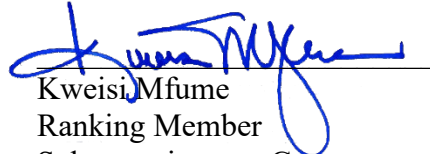
The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. If you have questions about this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051.

Thank you for your prompt attention on the matter.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member



Kweisi Mfume
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Government Operations

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
Mr. Douglas Tulino, Deputy Postmaster General and Chief Human Resources Officer,
United States Postal Service