

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) 225-6051
<https://oversight.house.gov>

September 2, 2026

The Honorable Tammy Hull
Inspector General
U.S. Postal Service
1735 N. Lynn Street
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Inspector General Hull:

We write with extreme alarm regarding a recent whistleblower disclosure that the United States Postal Service is secretly creating a ballot screening system, potentially in contravention of federal law, that could prevent millions of voters across the country from receiving their mail-in ballots. This disclosure makes it abundantly clear that the actions taken by the Postal Service at President Trump's direction threaten a "foreseeable catastrophic disruption to our coming nationwide elections."¹ If the Postal Service proceeds with the implementation of President Trump's executive order ahead of the 2026 midterm election, and these disruptions occur, a free and fair election is impossible. You must investigate the Postal Service's reckless actions, which undermine the foundation of our nation's democracy and violate the basic principle that all citizens have the right to have their vote counted.

The deeply troubling whistleblower disclosure outlines an unprecedented change in the way the Postal Service handles election mail in its rushed and potentially illegal implementation of President Trump's Executive Order (EO) to curb mail-in voting.² For the first time, the Postal Service has established a process in which it will determine which ballots issued by state election officials will be mailed. According to the disclosure, "potentially millions of American voters may not receive their mail-in ballot this election cycle in a timely manner, or at all" if the Postal Service deploys the faulty new set of systems it is developing to prevent voters from receiving their mail-in ballots.³ According to the whistleblower, Postal Service officials described the process for developing these systems as "a shit show" and "garbage."⁴

¹ *Whistleblower Claims USPS Plan for Trump's Mail Voting Order Could "Derail" Midterms*, National Public Radio (Sept. 1, 2026) (online at www.npr.org/2026/09/01/nx-s1-5950869/trump-mail-in-voting-usps).

² See Exec. Order No. 14399, 91 Fed. Reg. 17125, (Mar. 31, 2026).

³ See *Whistleblower Claims USPS Plan for Trump's Mail Voting Order Could "Derail" Midterms*, National Public Radio (Sept. 1, 2026) (online at www.npr.org/2026/09/01/nx-s1-5950869/trump-mail-in-voting-usps).

⁴ *Id.*

The Postal Service may also have violated at least one court order and made a series of false statements to both Congress and the judiciary. The whistleblower disclosed that the Postal Service continued developing this system in apparent defiance of a June 25, 2026, federal court order to stop implementation of the EO as well as an August 27, 2026, federal court order barring the Postal Service from taking even “preparatory steps” to implement its new ballot mail rule for the 2026 midterm elections.⁵ The whistleblower reports that after a brief pause to comply with the June 25 court order, the Postal Service resumed work on the Postal Service Federal Mail Portal without any legal authorization to do so and despite representing that it would not resume work until “the government obtains relief from those injunctions” and that it was abiding by the courts’ orders.⁶

As made clear in a detailed July 2, 2026, letter to you from Members of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and Committee on House Administration, the U.S. Constitution expressly gives authority to regulate elections to states and Congress—not the President, and certainly not to the Postal Service. Given that the Postal Service has seemingly failed to properly consider the Committee’s detailed explanation of its unambiguous constitutional and legal authorities, we must state again that the profoundly disturbing actions taken by the Postal Service to restrict which ballots can be sent are a direct violation of the constitutional and legal principles of American elections.⁷

The right of all Americans to have their votes counted is sacrosanct. The Postal Service’s current actions are putting clear obstacles in the way of exercising that right. Therefore, to protect the sanctity of our elections, and ensure that every American’s vote is counted, you must immediately investigate this whistleblower’s allegations, report any attempt to block your investigation, and disclose whatever wrongdoing you discover. Millions of voters could depend on your ability to quickly and thoroughly investigate the Postal Service’s apparent misconduct. Please confirm that you have begun an investigation no later than Friday, September 4, 2026.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Oversight Committee) 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. The Oversight Committee has legislative authority over the “Postal service generally, including transportation of the mails.”⁸ The Committee on House Administration is charged with the oversight of United States elections, including the “[e]lection of the President, Vice President, Members, Senators, Delegates, or the Resident Commissioner; corrupt practices; contested elections; credential and

⁵ *Id.*; see also *California v. Trump*, No. 1:26-cv-11581-IT, 2026 WL 1826490 (D. Mass. June 25, 2026).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ Letter from Ranking Member Robert Garcia, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Ranking Member Joseph D. Morelle, Committee on House Administration, et al. to Postmaster General David Steiner (July 2, 2026) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2026-07-02garciamorelletaltouspsreballotmailproposedrule.pdf>).

⁸ House Rule X, clause (1)(n)(9).

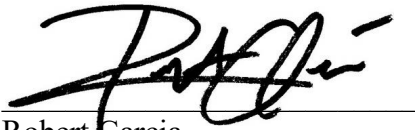
The Honorable Tammy Hull

Page 3

qualifications; and Federal elections generally.”⁹ If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform



Joseph D. Morelle
Ranking Member
Committee on House
Administration

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Bryan Steil, Chairman
Committee on House Administration

⁹ *Id.* at clause 1(k)(12).