

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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<https://oversight.house.gov>

September 2, 2026

Ms. Heather L. Dyer
Vice President, Chief Information Security Officer
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Ms. Dyer,

According to an astonishing whistleblower disclosure, the United States Postal Service (Postal Service) is secretly creating a ballot screening system 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 The Postal Service's reckless actions undermine the foundation of our nation's democracy and violate the basic principle that all citizens have the right to have their vote counted. As Chief Information Security Officer of the Postal Service, you are at the epicenter of ensuring the security and effectiveness of the Postal Service's technology efforts such as the Postal Service Federal Mail Portal (the Portal). Accordingly, you have access to critical information Congress requires to protect the sanctity of our elections and ensure that every American's vote is counted. I demand that you immediately provide information on this scheme to implement the Trump Administration's unconstitutional and illegal plans to control our nation's elections.

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, the Postal Service will screen and determine which ballots to send using a faulty new online system, the Portal. Not only is this an unprecedented intrusion into the administration of elections, but the whistleblower outlines that the new Portal faces significant technological issues with the result that "potentially millions of American voters may not receive their mail-in ballot this election cycle in a timely manner, or at all."³ To be clear, any actions taken by the Postal Service that prevent any registered voter, let

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*,

alone millions, from voting are unacceptable, a violation of Americans' voting rights, and likely illegal.

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.⁴ The whistleblower reports that after a brief pause to comply with the June 25 court order, the Postal Service resumed work on the 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.⁵ As the senior officer responsible for overseeing all Postal Service information security services, development environments, and externally facing websites, the Committee insists on hearing from you.⁶

As made clear in a detailed July 2, 2026, letter to the Postmaster General and Board of Governors from Democrats on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Oversight Committee) 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 constitutional and legal authorities, I 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 that right. Oversight Democrats expressly reserve our right to seek your testimony at a later date, whether voluntarily or compulsory. In the immediate, I demand that you provide no later than September 9, 2026, the following documents and communications from January 20, 2025, to the present:

1. A detailed and complete description of actions taken by the Postal Service to halt implementation of EO 14399 and the final rule titled "Ballot Mail for Federal Elections" (the Ballot Mail rule), pursuant to the June 25, 2026, and August 27, 2026, court orders;

National Public Radio (Sept. 1, 2026) (online at www.npr.org/2026/09/01/nx-s1-5950869/trump-mail-in-voting-usps).

⁴ *Id.*; see also *California v. Trump*, No. 1:26-cv-11581-IT, 2026 WL 1826490 (D. Mass. June 25, 2026).

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ See U.S. Postal Service, *Handbook AS-805 Revision: Information Security* (online at https://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/2019/pb22510/html/updt_003.htm) (accessed Sept. 2, 2026).

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/2026-07-02garciamorellectaltouspsreballotmailproposedrule.pdf>).

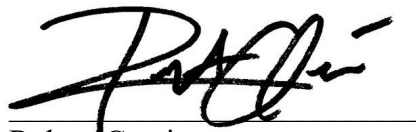
2. A detailed and complete description of any assessment(s) of risks relating to the implementation of EO 14399, election mail, and Ballot Mail rule. Please include all legal analyses and risk assessments conducted to inform the implementation of EO 14399 and the Ballot Mail rule;
3. All documents and communications related to the development, testing, feasibility, shortcomings, or failures of the Portal;
4. A detailed and complete description of all security measures and protocols in place to protect the privacy of personal identifiable information and other sensitive data within the Portal, database, and any system of record related to EO 14399, election mail, and the Ballot Mail rule;
5. A full inventory of all databases, records, and systems of record related to EO 14399, election mail, and the Ballot Mail rule.
6. A list of all individuals given systems access or security permissions to databases, systems of record, and records relating to EO 14399, election mail, and the Ballot Mail rule. Please include the names, positions, and security clearance levels held by such individuals;
7. A detailed and comprehensive description of all match, verification, and adjudication processes pursuant to the Ballot Mail rule, including when the Postal Service fails to make a match between election mail information (including an Intelligent Mail barcode, or IMb) and the state-specific Mail-In and Absentee Participation Lists;
8. An analysis of the costs related to the implementation of EO 14399 and the Ballot Mail rule, including the development, administration, and maintenance of the Portal;
9. All documents and communications relating to election mail, EO 14399, the Ballot Mail rule, and its implementation, including the development, administration, and maintenance of the Portal. Please include all communications, including but not limited to between you and following individuals:
 - a. David Steiner, Postmaster General;
 - b. Pritha Mehra, Chief Information Officer and Executive Vice President;
 - c. President Gary Reblin, Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President;
 - d. Executive Office of the President;
 - e. Office of Management and Budget;

- f. Social Security Administration;
- g. Department of Commerce;
- h. Department of Justice; and
- i. Department of Homeland Security, including the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

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. The Oversight Committee has legislative authority over the “Postal service generally, including transportation of the mails.”⁸ 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Garcia', written over a horizontal line.

Robert Garcia
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman

The Honorable Tammy Hull, Inspector General
United States Postal Service

⁸ House Rule X, clause (1)(n)(9).