

**Docket 2015-2**  
**Petitioner's Emergency Request for Injunctive Relief and**  
**Suspension of Closure Pending Commission Review of this Appeal**

March 27, 2015

Robert G. Taub  
Acting Chairman  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Dear Chairman Taub:

I am appealing to you to provide an emergency suspension of closure of the Careywood Post Office (Docket 2015-2) to protect the citizens of Careywood, ID from the high-handed and unlawful actions of the US Postal Service.

We have been deprived at every turn with the due process guaranteed by US Postal Service regulations. According to the "Postal Service-Operated Retail Facilities Discontinuance Guide," the USPS should have followed the procedures outlined below **before** even making the decision to close our post office:

- (1) Conduct an on-site investigation. No one from the USPS ever visited our post office since the new postmaster, Carrie Bartelt, took over.
- (2) Distribute a questionnaire to the Careywood Post Office customers soliciting their input on the post office and the proposed closing. According to the Discontinuance Guide:

"...The questionnaire, customer letter, and Summary of Postal Service Retail Facility Change Regulations should be posted in the lobby of the affected retail facility with an indication that copies are available upon request...."

Again, the only notice we received was the notice of closing.

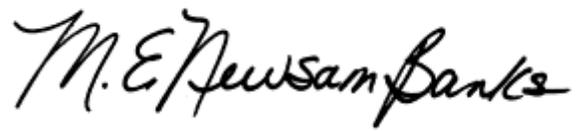
- (3) Hold a community meeting to explain the proposed closure. Again, this step in the process was completely denied the Careywood Post Office customers.
- (4) Provide a 60 day comment period following posting of the notice of a proposed closing so that postal customers can respond to the proposed closing. Again, we were deprived of this protection and only received 39 days of notice that our post office was being closed - like it or not.
- (5) Provide for a 30 day appeal period following the 60 day comment period. Although we have been taking advantage of the time left to us to try and stop this egregious behavior on the part of the USPS, we have certainly not been granted the courtesy of a formal 30 day appeal period.

Throughout this entire process, the US Postal Service has made no effort to provide the customers of the Careywood Post Office with the protection provided for by their own rules and regulations. On the contrary, we have been treated with disrespect and disdain. In addition to my letters to the commission, I have written letters to all of the following: Megan J. Brennan, Kelly M. Sigmon, James Nemec, and Drew Aliperto. So far, the only response I have received was from the Postmaster General's vice president of delivery operations in which he told me that the USPS didn't have to follow their closure rules with regard to the Careywood Post Office because we were just a "contract postal unit" not a real post office. Not a **real** post office?! Don't we send and receive mail at our post office? Don't we pay the same postal rates as everyone else?!

To add injury to insult, workers showed up at our Post Office this morning (on the 27<sup>th</sup> NOT the 28<sup>th</sup>!) to remove the mailboxes from our Post Office! The USPS is in such a hurry to shut us down, they can't even follow the procedures they laid out in their own letter of closing to us!

Please, Mr. Taub, use your power as acting chairman and issue an Emergency Suspension of Closure order to the USPS to stop their abusive and unlawful treatment of the Careywood Post Office and its customers. All we're asking is to be treated like any other post office and be given the due process guaranteed by USPS regulations. Stand up for the little guy, Mr. Taub, and make the USPS follow its own rules!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. E. Newsam Banks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Marrion E. Newsam Banks  
PO Box 360  
Careywood, ID 83809