

6/27/2011

Postal Rate Commission  
Docket # 2011-18

To whom it may concern :

My name is Michael Vinal, and I have worked for the US Postal Service for over 30 years. I have worked at the Pawtucket Installation since 1988. Our Installation is made up of Pawtucket, Darlington, Central Falls, Lincoln, Cumberland, and Valley Falls. We all work in any one of those offices. Approx 3 years ago, I was working in the Cumberland Office on Diamond Hill Rd and I was in charge of the stamp sales counter. As you stand at the counter waiting on customers, you can see right through the full sized windows, in the front lobby, out front to Diamond Hill Rd. Many days I saw the traffic backed up with cars, because someone was waiting to pull into our parking lot. There is only 13 spaces available in the parking lot, but the bank is right next door. People would kill 2 birds with 1 stone and walk to the bank, to add to the time their parking space was occupied.

1 particular day I was waiting on customers, with another 6 or 7 in line, when we heard and felt what could only be described as a hand grenade concussion blast. I immediately left the window and had to open the side lobby door, into the PO Box area, and found a car half into our building and half out of our building. Our side lobby also has all glass windows also. My military training immediately kicked in and I checked for any injuries and yelled into the window area for someone to call 911 and tell them we have a car in our lobby.

It is a U shaped parking lot and to exit to the left from the property you sometimes have to drive around a car waiting to get into the parking lot. I went to the meeting the Postal Service held for the residents at 2pm, when hopefully most residents were at work to support their families. I raised questions regarding the safety issues of the additional traffic that the Postal Service will be sending into that lot. They have not issued any communications with the community in regards to their concerns raised at that meeting, as the Postal Officials said they would.

Valley Falls can not be singled out, as the main speaker for the Postal Service said, revenue is down 20 %. A concerned resident asked if the revenue was down 20 % at all Post Offices. The main Postal Speaker said yes, revenue is down 20 % at all Post Offices. It has been my experience over the 30 plus years I have been working here, is that to fix a problem they create a bigger one. That would obviously be one of a safety concern for the extra influx of customers into the Diamond Hill Office.

The Postal Service quotes savings of over 100K, when in fact the employee will still be working in our Installation for a savings of 0. The custodial services will not be saved by closing the Valley Falls. The Custodial Services will be saved by our recent labor agreement that no longer allows any contracting out of custodial services in our Installation. The Postal Service is using funny Math to make it look like they are going to save !!

Sincerely: Michael D. Vinal  
Postal Clerk  
Pawtucket Installation