

Postal Regulatory Commission
Office of the Chief Admin. Officer

SEP 20 2011

Blythe D. Gottlieb

P.O. Box 31

Argyle, FL 32422

A2011-89

RECEIVED

2011 SEP 23 P 1:17

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SEPTEMBER 11, 2011

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

901 NEW YORK AVENUE NW SUITE 200

WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF APPEAL TO FINAL DETERMINATION TO CLOSE
ARGYLE POST OFFICE**

RE: DOCKET NUMBER 1353310-32422

The Postal Service's decision to close our post office and provide rural delivery service raises questions concerning the sanctity of the mail and the risks involved concerning identity theft in the handling of our mail. We also foresee inconveniences in purchasing money orders and stamps, and sending accountable mail. We have the same concerns regarding the receipt of accountable mail, such as certified letters, registered letters, and COD's.

A serious concern previously brought before the Postal Service and not considered nor addressed in Number 13 of the final determination is the safety of our senior citizens. A large number of the customers served by the Argyle Post Office are elderly and/or handicapped. They are not able to ambulate quickly when crossing the road and their vision and hearing is poor. According to the response listed in Number 7 of the final determination it states that mailboxes must be placed on the right-hand side of the road in the direction of the carrier's travel. This means that these persons will have to cross a busy road in order to access their mailboxes. This creates a credible safety issue.

Also, there is no public transportation available to take these persons to the post office located in DeFuniak Springs where there are often long waiting lines. The elderly and the handicapped are unable to stand in these lines for any length of time. So accessing another post office for services is not an option for this population.

Another concern previously brought before the Postal Service and not considered nor addressed in Number 7 of the final determination is the hardship placed on the elderly, handicapped, and widows in installing and maintaining mailboxes. This large population is made up of persons with limited resources. For them to initially purchase a mailbox, install it, and then to maintain and/or replace mailboxes that are damaged due to vandalism will create a financial burden and a physical hardship for them.

We also have concerns pertaining to Paragraphs III and IV in the final determination. Paragraph III states that the postmaster retired on November 21, 2009. She was actually on leave without pay until the year 2010. The current OIC reported to work on Nov. 21, 2009. We question the accuracy/proof of the amount of economic savings listed under Salary and Benefits in the final determination.

Paragraph IV states that the postmaster salary with benefits is \$33,168 plus \$11,111. The current OIC is not a Postmaster and her pay grade is not the same as a Postmaster. Therefore her salary is/was less than that of a Postmaster. The Postal Service does not pay /provide for her any benefits. The annual lease costs listed in Paragraph IV at \$4800 is also incorrect. We believe that the correct amount is \$3300 per year. Therefore we question the accuracy/proof of the amount of economic savings listed in the final determination under Salary, Benefits, and Lease Costs.

A final concern pertains to the information that we were told by Postal Authorities saying that we could maintain our current mailing addresses if we moved our post office boxes to the DeFuniak Springs Post Office. This option is not listed in the final determination to close the Argyle Post Office.

We understand that Post Office revenues are down nationwide for a number of reasons. Locally, some post office customers have heard the negative news about the financial condition of the Postal Service. They have determined that the closing of the Argyle Post Office is inevitable. They are afraid that their ability to receive mail will be interrupted dramatically. Since early 2011, they have prematurely taken measures such as closing their post office boxes causing more reductions in the number of transactions and revenues coming into the Argyle Post Office. We suspect these box closings are occurring nationwide because of the anxiety caused by the uncertainty of the future of the Postal Service based on the financial information being received by post office customers. This further contributes to lower Postal Service Revenues overall.

We would suggest that instead of closing our facility and other post offices located in rural areas where there are very limited or no resources that you order the Postal Service to consider closing branch facilities in larger urban areas. Larger urban areas have more resources available to the disadvantaged in helping them to get to other locations for services and assistance. We would also suggest that you order the Postal Service to consider continuing operations at the Argyle Post Office with an OIC and a PMR who are already in place. Both of these pay grades are considerably lower than that of a Postmaster and do not include paid benefits thereby reducing operating costs to a minimum to the Postal Service. The performance of the OIC and the PMR is excellent and the customers of the Argyle Post Office do not feel that a Postmaster in that office would enhance the service in any way. We would suggest that if under Title 39, U.S. Code an assigned Postmaster is required in a rural Post Office then another cost cutting measure be implemented bringing rural post offices/OIC's/ PMR's under the umbrella of the jurisdiction of Postmasters in the larger facilities located nearby.

We feel that as citizens of the United States, we are entitled to the same efficient postal service provided to our counterparts in urban areas. The Postal Reorganization Act is explicit in pointing this out. We petition you, as members of the Postal Regulatory Commission, to respectfully consider our appeal and order the Postal Service to give additional considerations to our service needs.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Blythe Gottlieb". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Blythe Gottlieb

Enc: Signed Petition

Deadline for signing this petition is March 29, 2011. It will be presented to postal reps. who will be present at a public meeting to be held on March 30, 2011 at 6:30 P.M. at the DeFuniak Springs Civic Center. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1. 3-21-2011	William Burnham	
2. 3-21-2011	Kathryn Hobbs	
3. 3-21-2011	Salvina Munkhorn	
4. 3-21-11	Robert Winters	
5. 3-21-11	Loraine Brooks	6
6. 3-21-11	R. Bostick	8
7. 3-21-11	Tommy Bostick	
8. 3-21-11	Michael Grady	1120
9. 3-21-11	James Regalado	5198
10.	Matha Howell	1464 P
11. 3-21-11	Frankie	178
12. 3-21-11	Charles Morrow	21
13. 3-21-11	Bart Adams	25

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	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
14.	3/21/11	Denise Perry	5
15.	3/21/11	Andersen Robert	2
16.	3/21/11	Marcella Harris	1
17.	3/21/11	St. John's Lutheran	
18.	3/21/11	St John Church	
19.	3/21/11	Jamie Tolbert	
20.	3/21/11	Paul Vanderhill	1
21.	3-21-11	Ryan Rushing	100
22.	3-21-11	Justin Livingston	161
23.	3-21-11	R Miller	87
24.	3-21-11	Samuel Nelson	21
25.	3-21-11	Joyce Williams	2
26.	3-21-11	David Byers	1

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	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
27.	3-21-11	Ezekiel Gordon	
28.	3-21-11	Carman Caryl	
29.	3-21-11	David Payne	
30.	3-21-11	Annette Lawrence	
31.	3-21-11	Jeremy Marcum	
32.	3-21-11	Artie...	
33.	3-22-11	Edith...	
34.	3-22-11	Tommy Giers	
35.	3/22/11	Jeanette Wertenberger	
36.	3/22/11	Tomnie Wertenberger	
37.	3/22/11	...	
38.	3/22/11	Lina McKee	
39.	3-22-011	JASON AND MARIKA Medler	
	1-28-11	John Day	

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
40. 3/23/11	JAMES ALFORD	
41. 3/23/11	Bob White	
42. 3-23-11	Myra Phelan	
43. 3-23-11	Luis Washington	
44. 3-23-11	Janelle Washington	30
45. 3-23-11	Harley Routley	2
46. 3-23-11	Jarvis Routley	1
47. 3-23-11	Beni Baker	
48. 3-23-11	Myra Calver	
49. 3-23-11	TYLER HATFIELD	
50. 3-23-11	Faye Randolph	F
51. 3-23-11	Martha Baker	P
52. 3/23/11	Jean Dossell MICHELLE FARRON	P

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	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
53.	3-24-11	Josh Jones	
54.	3-24-11	Robert Bowley	
55.	3-24-11	ANTON J GEIGER	
56.	3-24-11	Mark Henderson	47
57.	3-24-11	Cecil Johnson	19
58.	3-24-11	Klec Martin	
59.	3-24-11	Brian Caproni	
60.	3-24-11	Jana Caproni	
61.	3-24	Keith Williams	
62.	3-25	Troy Sauter	
63.	3-25	Bruce Smith	
64.	3-25	Ricky Fenwick	9
65.	3-25	J. Schfield	

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DATE

NAME

ADDRESS

66. 3/25/11 Jimmie McElhann

67. 3/25/11 Diana Andrea

68. 3-25-11 Santa Caley, BWS

69. 3-25-11 RALPH WINTERS

70. 3-26-11 Willie James - 608

-28-11 71. Calvin Ruffin Sr. A12

-28-11 72. Angela Ruffin A

28-11 73. Dennis P. Jones 12

28-11 74. Jeremiah Cotts 116

29-11 75. Jessica Morris 111

-29-11 76. Louis Roberts 266

-29-11 M. Gloria Baldwin 247

Total 112 Signatures

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1. 3/21/11	Charles Day	
2. 3/22/11	Sarah Masly	
3. 3/22/11	William D. Ford	
4. 3/22/11	James + Alice Smith	
5. 3-22-11	D. ROBERTS	2408 HW 193 RD
6. 3-22-11	CARI HALL	
7. 3-22-11	Dennis C. Ketter	
8. 03/22/11	Garrett C. Mitchell	
9. 3-22-11	KENNETH W. ROBERTS	26
10. 3-22-11	TAMMY DRYIE	9 11
11. 3-22-11	Carlotta Smith	
12. 3-22-11	Craig English	
13. 3-22-11	Barbara Hipson	

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14.	3/22/11	Ross K. Randolph	
15.	3/22/11	Cam R. Langford	
16.	3/22/11	Briquet Ortega	
17.	3/22/11	James Brilock	
18.	3/23/11	Thanna Goan	
19.	3/23/11	Harvey	
20.	3/23/11	Ronald Mitchell	
21.	3-23-11	Bryant D. Esteban	
22.	3/23/11	Martha Scott	
23.	3/23/11	Marti (Mrs) Annemas	
24.	3/23/11	Donald Turner	
25.	3/23/11	Shirley Turner	
26.	3/24/11	Calvin Butler	

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
27. 3/19/11	Royell Burt	
28. 3/24/10	Jennifer Brown	
29. 3/24/10	Dorena Roberts	
30. 3/24/10	Ellen Burch	
31. 3-24-11	Jonathan Day	
32. 3-24-11	Kroyle Fire District Inc.	
33. 3-24-11	Luckie Markew	
34. 3-24-11	Jessie Morris	
35. 3-24-11	Jeremiah Cates	
36. 3-24-11	Rozette Day	
37. 3-25-11	Jeremy Cates	
38. 3-24-11	Dylan Simon	
39. 3-25-11	Teresa Nelson	

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40.	3-25-11	Bryson Ortega	
41.	3-25-11	Aivore Ortega	
42.	3-25-11	Thomas Nelson	
43.	3/27/11	CAMPBELL, WALE ² WALE ²	
44.	3/28/11	DOT DENNIS	
45.	3/28/11	WILLIAM DENNIS	
46.	3/25/11	Thomas Jordan	
47.	3/25/11	Louie Parker	
48.		Louie Parker	
49.		Wilma Fission	
50.	3/27/11	Gobuldee	
51.		Glenn Peacock	
52.		Lanita Gray - 3/25/11	

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DATE **NAME** **ADDRESS**

- 53. 3-25-11 Reggy Bryan
- 54. 3-25-11 Stephanie Demason
- 55. 3-25-11 Hindmore Animal Clinic
- 56. 3-25-11 Rosa Jones
- 57. 3-25-11 Betty Brading
 po. box 36
 Hwy. #1, 32422
 14
 for the restoration
- 58. 3-25-11 P.O. Box 96
 for the restoration
- 59. 3-26-11 P.O.B 13
 2600 S. Orange
- 60. 3-26-11 Grubbs morgan
- 61. 3-26-11 Mary Kay Proff
- 62. 3-26-11 Anne Chace
- 63. 3-26-11 Alice E. Campbell
- 64. 3-26-11 Helen / Lisa
- 65. 3-26-11 Linda & Edward

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
66. 3-27-11	Margaret Day	
67. 3-27-11	TIMMY TOLKES	
68. 3-28-11	Stacy Johnson	
69. 3-28-11	Sandra Williams	
70. 3-28-11	Jeanne Jewell	
71. 3-29-11	James Buchanan	
72. 3-29-11	Corey Evans	
73. 3-29-11	Aster Randolph	
74. 3-29-11	Freddie Randolph	
75. 3-29-11	Hanna Boyington	
76. 3-29-11 3/29/11	Marsha McLeiden	
77. 3-29-11 3/29/11	Trudie Campbell	
78. Litzy Underwood	3/30/11	
79. 3-29-11 3/30/11		
80. Ethel Campbell		
81. (BHD) Atkinson		
82.		
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NAME

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66. 3/27, 2011 Cletta Ray

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
66. 3/24/2011	LINDA MIMS	
67. 3-26-2011	ROBERT HILL	
68. 5-27-2011	DENNIS LAMBERT	
69. 3-27-2011	JUDY LAMBERT	
70. 3-29-2011	PAULINE ROBERTS	
71. 3-29-2011	DIAN ROBERTS	
72. 3-29-2011	MIKE ALYDI	
73.		

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
66. 3-23-11	Billy Scott	
67. 3-24-11	Ron Davidson	
68. 3-24-11	Wendy Scott	
69. 3-24-11	J.D. Dew	41
70. 3-24-11	Casey Nelson	4
71. 3-24-11	Jeremy Dixon	8
72. 3-24-2011	Shade Theriot	12
73. 3-24-2011	Tabitha Miller	12L
74. 3-24-2011	Herman Jordan	15
75. 3-24-2011	Robert A. Scott	
76. 3-24-2011	Bonita C. Scott	
3-25-2011	Jeremy Griggs	
3-25-2011	Casey Nelson	
3-29-11	James W. Scott	
3-29-11	Mike Scott	
3-29-11	Johnny Allen Scott	

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1. 3/30/11	ALFRED CAMPBELL	
2.		
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<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1. 3-28-11	John Briggs	
2. 3-29-11	Terr. Cotton	
3. 3-29-11	Alwayn Curran	
4. 3-29-11	Vann Thomas, II	
5. 3-29-11	Gregory Smith	
6.		
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