

A 2012-28

Received

OCT 18 2011

Office of PAGR

CITY OF FERGUSON
P.O. BOX 78
FERGUSON, IA 50078

October 3, 2011

RECEIVED

2011 OCT 20 A 12: 55

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

Re: Ferguson Post Office

The Postal Service has issued a Final Determination to Close the Ferguson, IA Post Office and Establish Service by Rural Route Service, Date of Posting 09/15/2011.

We, the Mayor and Council of the City of Ferguson and the residents of Ferguson and/or customers of the Ferguson Post Office, appeal this action in view of the provision of the Postal Reorganization Act that calls for the Postal Service to provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal service to rural areas, communities and small towns where the post office is not self sustaining. Our appeal is based on the following:

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

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. In support of this appeal we state the following:

The Final Determination to Close states the Postmaster position became vacant when the Postmaster retired on October 1, 2010, and since the retirement an OIC has been installed to operate the office. In fact, the Ferguson Post Office has not had a Postmaster actually working in the facility for approximately five years and only a figurehead Postmaster assigned to Ferguson. During that same five-year period, an OIC has been actually performing the daily work. The Postal Service has ascribed the salary and benefits of a Postmaster to this facility, instead of the same expense of a working OIC. This inflates the expenses and economic savings to the Postal Service.

The Ferguson Post Office is one of the three posting places established by ordinance for the City of Ferguson. The response made by the Postal Service that these postings can be made at the City Hall is untrue because Ferguson does not have a City Hall.

The Final Determination states there are no permit holders at the Ferguson Post Office. That is an untrue statement. Attached to this appeal letter is a statement from the owner of Permit No. 1, as well as a copy of a mailing showing the permit seal.

The customers of the Ferguson Post Office were given 30 days to appeal this Final Determination, whereas the initial posting allowed 60 days for response.

There are no retail businesses in Ferguson for establishment of an auxiliary or satellite postal service center.

Ferguson has a large number of elderly residents who are unable to travel to Marshalltown or Gilman for routine postal services (purchasing postage, weighing packages, purchasing money orders, etc.). This places an unfair burden on senior citizens. Also, because of their age and health conditions, many of these residents were not able to attend the public meeting on April 28, 2011.

Ferguson has requested a downsizing or reduction in hours of operation for this facility, but that request has been denied.

The Final Determination states the retail window counts were low. The Postal Service chose to select a low count period rather than a higher count in order to justify the closing. This action is unfair.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale S. Thompson

Dale Thompson, Mayor

Members of the Ferguson City Council

Glenda Thompson
Michael Hood
Brad Fuller
Charles D. McFay

Glenda Thompson

From: Chris Hungerford [chris@hoopsking.com]
Sent: Friday, September 16, 2011 12:15 PM
To: Glenda Thompson
Subject: Re: Email address

I have been shipping catalogs out of the Ferguson Post Office for nearly 7 years using Permit #1. We mail thousands of catalogs each year out of Ferguson.

Sincerely,

Chris Hungerford
Hoops King.com, Inc.
2943 260th Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158

Phone or Fax: 877-569-2508
Web: www.hoopsking.com
Downloadable DVDs: <http://downloads.hoopsking.com>

From: Glenda Thompson <gfthom@heartofiowa.net>
To: chris@hoopsking.com
Cc: gfthom@heartofiowa.net
Sent: Thursday, September 15, 2011 6:54 PM
Subject: Email address

Chris,

Lee said you want3d my email address so you could send her a statement of the number of years he has held a permit for the Ferguson post office

gfthom@heartofiowa.net

Glenda

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U.S. Postage Paid
Ferguson, IA
Permit No. 1

PETITION

THE UNDERSIGNED BOXHOLDERS AND/OR U.S.P.S. CUSTOMERS OPPOSE THE FINAL DETERMINATION TO CLOSE THE FERGUSON, IA POST OFFICE AND ESTABLISH SERVICE BY RURAL ROUTE SERVICE - DATE OF POSTING 09/15/2011:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u> <i>R n v 61</i>	<u>DATE</u>
<u>Charles Jones</u>		<u>10-3-11</u>
<u>Ellen McKay</u>		<u>10/3/11</u>
<u>Joan & Miller</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Mick Good</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Joan Riker</u>	<i>E</i>	<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Victor O'Brien</u>		<u>4 10-4-11</u>
<u>Melvin Frelund</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Ray W. Mills</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Vickie Westcott</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Melba G. Phillips</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Janice Westcott</u>		<u>7 10-4-11</u>
<u>Mike & Kasandra Horrell</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>John Horrell</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<i>Andrew B. ... Stephen S. ...</i>		<u>10-4-11</u> <u>10-4-11</u>

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE
DEANIS W GUMMER		10-5-11
PAT H DUNN		10-5-11
BUD & MICHAEL KELLEY		10-5-11
GARY DEED		10-5-11
Tony Good		10-5-11
		10-5-11
SON WILLIAM SMITH		10-6-11
DAVID ANDERSON		10-10-11

PETITION

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE</u>
<u>Rt Roberts</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Jim Roberts</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Leona Roberts</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Evelyn Runner</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Depe & Rahm</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Carol N Rahm</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Amanda Rahm</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Jay E. Shuman</u>		<u>10/4/11</u>
<u>Nancy Villone</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>David Lurvey</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Steve Seelye</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Kathy Seelye</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>Valerie Villone</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>
<u>B. Howell</u>		<u>10-4-11</u>

DATE

ADDRESS

NAME

10-4-2011

Glenda Thompson

10-4-2011

Mark L. Throy

10-4-2011

Miral Ban

10-4-2011

John Smith

10-4-2011

Neil Sinclair

10-5-2011

Marine Sinclair
