

Received

OCT 24 2011

October 19, 2011
P. O. Box 15

Glenwood, AL 36034
RECEIVED

Chairman Office of PAGR
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

2011 OCT 25 A 6:00

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Re: Closing of
Glenwood Post
Office 36034

Dear Chairman:

This letter is in appeal of the decision by the US Postal Service to close the Glenwood Post Office 36034 on December 03, 2011 as per an e-mail received by Bill Viet, Officer in Charge, from Carljha Goree employee with the Postal Service in Birmingham, Alabama. This appeal is based on the following.

First, based on US Code 39, Section 101 (b), a Postmaster vacancy alone is not sufficient grounds to close an office. In addition, US Code 39 states that universal service should be provided to all customers. It further states that no rural post office can be closed for reason of being financially non self-supporting.

The financial statement received from William Elliot, Manager, Postal Operations in Birmingham, Alabama, was apparently based on the period when Glenwood Post Office actually had a postmaster. However, since April 24, 2010 the position of postmaster has been vacant. The office has been managed by an Officer-in-Charge who is paid an hourly rate with no benefits. The lessor pays the property tax and makes needed repairs. This arrangement works for the Glenwood patrons and it has resulted in an annual savings for the Postal Service.

Any savings planned for by closing the office will be quickly wiped out in order to provide rural mail service to present boxholders. The addition of large numbers of boxes to the present rural route will have an immediate effect on that route. Addition of boxes and stops changes the status of the route resulting in a higher pay scale.

Usually this results in splitting the route and hiring an auxillary carrier who would be paid at a higher rate than the present OIC as it would entail extra benefits.

The present working arrangement has met the needs of the local citizens for the past year and one-half and appears most cost effective for the Postal Service.

The Glenwood Post Office was established in 1900 when the town was settled. It was located in the store operated by the first postmaster, M. L. Beck. Beck later built a post office building, the wood having been cut from one virgin pine tree. In 1952 the office was moved to its present location

The Glenwood Post Office is tightly woven into the fabric of the town. If you close this office you will be ripping a vital organ from the town. The history of this Post Office has seen the day that one could mail a letter for 2¢ to any place in the States or send a postal card for 1¢. For this 2¢ a letter was mailed in Macon, Georgia at 11 a.m. December 5 and received locally at 8 a.m. the next day, December 6....so much for today's priority and express mail!

Please review your copy of "Proposal To Close The Glenwood AL Post Office and Establish Service By Independent Post Office (Revised), Document Number 1365020-36034." The responses by the Postal Service Representative to the concerns expressed by the local postal patrons seem to be form-like or standardized as if the concerns submitted were of NO concern to the USPS.

Your serious consideration of this request and a timely reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely,



Enid C. Folmar
Local Boxholder & Retired Postmaster
Glenwood, Alabama 36034