

A 2012-75

Dear Mr. Oliver,

RECEIVED

I am sending this letter as an appeal to close the Geuda Springs, 67051, post office. This is referred to as Docket number 1364712-67051. I hate to say that, as if we have our own identity of our own, as if all we are is a number to the Postal SERVICE.

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Let me begin with several facts: First we have been told numerous times over the course of this process that we would be routed out of Oxford, KS (67119), we have been told this from the very first. That was a bold face lie, as the postal service knew that they would be moving the routes out of Oxford into Winfield, KS (67156), which they did on October 22, 2011. I cannot believe that they did not know in advance that they were moving those routes. We have been told and told that should we need to take care of any business at the post office should ours close, that we would need to go through the Oxford post office. Well we have people that are already on the rural route, that are NOW being told that they will have to go through the Winfield office. The Winfield office is 22 miles from us, as opposed to the Oxford office which is 11 miles. So much for making an office readily available to us, we have a small population of which 80% are elderly or disabled, the rest of us work, how are we supposed to make it to an office 22 miles away without taking off work to do so?? Why would the postal service make such claims as they have when they knew they were not true?

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
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Second, we have number of people that receive medications in the mail. Again we have been told that the incidence of mail theft here is NON EXISTANT, so we needn't worry about that. FACT, the Arkansas City post office is now reported a marked increase in mail theft from boxes outside homes and I would venture to guess cluster boxes as well. One of the things targeted, prescription medications. Not too a big leap to know that a small town 10 miles from them would start experencing the same sort of things. We have no police department here, so that is going to add the chances of this happening. So much for safe and secure delivery of our mail, isn't that one of the things that the postal service prides it's self on? Another fact about a lot of the medications being delivered, it's a HUGE problem for those meds to be exposed to the extreme temperatures that we experience here in Kansas. Will the post office be willing to take responsibility for those meds if they are stolen or if they are exposed to the temps and therefore don't work as they are supposed to?

Third, we never know when the mail is going to get here, it varies so much every day that we never know when to expect it. So we should spend the day running back and forth to the mail box to check??

Forth, we have a number of small businesses that use the office here daily; most of those are internet business that requires mailing packages, insuring packages etc. Having to travel 22 miles to do so is going to be big problem for them, even if they choose to use the Oxford or Arkansas City office, that's still at least a 20 mile round trip. With that added expense you very well might be signing the closing of those businesses.

Received

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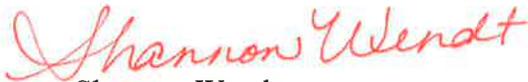
Fifth, we know that the postal service, has passed out THOUSANDS of dollars in BONUS payments, yet they are still reporting a yearly loss. This makes no sense to me, as all the companies I have ever worked for if the company was having a yearly loss you didn't get a bonus. I also have to wonder how many of those BONUS payments went to people that didn't even touch a piece of mail. How many jobs in upper management have been "downsized" to help with this loss? Maybe the postal service should start at the top and work its way down before closing any post office. How many offices could be saved if the "higher ups" took a 10 or 15% pay cut, or refused to take a bonus? In this I can see is that the post office is closing offices, which is cutting off their noses in spite of their faces. They are shutting down their bread and butter instead of looking inside the company they are so proud of.

We as a community don't want to lose our office at all but if we have to lose the office then we beg of you to find a better choice than the cluster boxes that have been spoken of. Perhaps curbside boxes at our homes where those who are elderly or disabled might be able to watch for the mail carrier, that would help them feel more secure as they would be able to gather packages such as medicines right away.

If you were to close the office it would make more sense to have us routed out of Arkansas City, which is 10 miles away as opposed to 22, which will be where we will have to go now. There is a route out of Arkansas City that comes within a mile of Geuda Springs. Most all of us do business in Arkansas City so we would not be required to make a special trip to a town where there is nothing of interest to us. We could plan around anything that we may need to take care of in office, and do that along with our other business.

I beg of you to take into consideration the things I have said and that they will make a difference to someone, as I said we do not want to lose our office, it's one of the last social outlets in a small town, closing it would place hardship on the majority of our community.

Sincerely,
Shannon Wendt



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