



September 1, 2020

Mr. Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.
Room 4012
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. DeJoy:

The League of Women Voters of the United States (“the League”) is committed to educating voters and encouraging active participation in democracy through voting. In manifesting our mission, the League, along with our more than 760 affiliate organizations throughout the United States, routinely deliver voter registration forms to local post offices for distribution and hold voter registration drives in the vestibules of retail locations, in accordance with USPS policy.¹

As you know, the Postal Service has long permitted voter registration on postal premises so long as it is organized by “non-profit civic leagues.”² Tens of thousands of League members, millions of Americans, and the large majority of states and government officials have come to rely on the Postal Service as an agency that provides voter registration forms. In many cases, states and localities designate the post office as a “Voter Registration Agency” pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act (“NVRA”).³

The Harris County, Texas Voter Registrar website—in reliance on the post offices longstanding practice of making voter registration forms and postcards available—advises visitors that they can “pick-up an application at [the] local U.S. Postal office” to register to vote.⁴ However, the

¹ See, e.g., USPS Postal Bulletin 21434 (Dec. 1, 1983).

² *Id.*

³ 52 U.S.C. 20506. See, e.g., Co. St. Section 1-2-503 (Colorado statute designating “all federal post offices” as Voter Registration Agencies); Howard County, Maryland, “Voter Registration”, available at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Board-of-Elections/Voter-Information/Voter-Registration> (advising residents that the United States Post Office is a voter registration agency); Oregon Secretary of State, “Update Voter Registration Information”, available at <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/pages/updatevoterregistration.aspx> (advising that “you can find a voter registration card at a post office”).

⁴ Harris County Tax Office, Register to Vote, available at <https://www.hctax.net/voter/registration>.



League's affiliate in Harris County, Texas was informed by a postal worker that local post offices have recently been directed to no longer make voter registration forms available, despite their decades long practice of doing so in Harris County and in post offices around the country.⁵ Though we do not know how widespread this new practice is, the League is understandably very concerned. If "Non-profit civic leagues" as defined by the USPS, are willing to supply forms that comply with the conditions set forth in the Postal Operations Manual and Postal Bulletins regarding voter registration, we request that you direct the USPS to make voter registration forms and postcards available at all post offices around the nation.

Sincerely,

Virginia Kase
Chief Executive Officer
LWVUS

Dr. Deborah Turner
Board of Directors President
LWVUS

Grace Chimene
President
LWVTX

cc: Honorable Ron Johnson, Chair, Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney, Chair, House Oversight and Reform

⁵ Ashley Lopez, "Voting Group Says It Is No Longer Allowed to Leave Voter Registration Cards In Post Offices," KUT (August 28, 2020), available at <https://www.kut.org/post/voting-group-says-it-no-longer-allowed-leave-voter-registration-cards-post-offices>.