

American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

1300 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

August 22, 2006

William Burrus
President
(202) 842-4246

Mr. Gene Del Polito
PostCom
1901 N. Fort Myer Dr, Ste 401
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Del Polito:

Upon my return from the APWU national convention, I read your PostCom editorial dated Aug. 17, 2006, and have elected to respond. I attribute your failure to understand the objectives of the American Postal Workers Union to my communication skills - or lack thereof - and take full responsibility. But because your opinions are circulated widely and are well-read, I believe it is important to address your concerns.

It is not the intent of the American Postal Workers Union to ensure our own extinction. In fact, if there is any doubt, our union plans to be a viable organization far into the future.

If we have failed to deliver a clear message identifying our objectives, I offer the following:

The American Postal Workers Union

- Supports an economically sound United States Postal Service that serves the American public at a level that fosters communication;
- Supports universal service at uniform rates;
- Supports every citizen's right to efficient service, with no favor afforded to large mailers;
- Favors a rate system that requires uniform payment for service and contends that any exception should not exceed the postal cost avoided;
- Supports the right of individual citizens and small businesses to have the same input and access to postal information as large mailers and to have their voices heard during the formative stage of the postal decision-making process;

National Executive Board

William Burrus
President

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Central Region

Jim Burke
Eastern Region

Elizabeth "Liz" Powell
Northeast Region

Frankie Sanders
Southern Region


Omar M. Gonzalez
Western Region

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- Believes that change is positive and that changes to mail service should reflect the needs and demands of the American public;
- Supports collective bargaining as a basic tenet of democracy and rejects efforts to “stack the deck” by those who support democracy only when it advances their self-interest;
- Supports the right of lobbyists to defend the economic interests of their clients, but not at the expense of service to the American public;
- Believes that postal employees deserve dignity and respect in their employment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Burrus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "W" and "B".

William Burrus
President

WB:hfa
opeiu#2/afl-cio