



# National Association of Letter Carriers

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Fredric V. Rolando, President

August 18, 2021

Ms. Catherine M. Russell  
Director  
Office of Presidential Personnel  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Director Russell:

I write on behalf of 210,000 city letter carriers employed by the U.S. Postal Service to urge the Biden administration to nominate Ron Bloom, Chairman of the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors, to a new term on the board. Bloom's partial term on the Board expired in December 2020 and he is now serving in his holdover year. Urgent action is required by your office on this nomination to ensure time for the Senate confirmation.

Mr. Bloom had a long history with the American labor movement before serving in the Obama Administration and developing expertise on the Postal Service as an advisor to NALC as an investment banker at the Lazard Company. He helped the Postal Service weather one of the most turbulent periods in its history with the Covid-19 pandemic and the open hostility of President Biden's predecessor, who recklessly and dishonestly politicized the Postal Service in 2019 and 2020.

Indeed, in his time on the board, Bloom has been a strong advocate for the public interest:

- He urged the adoption of the Postal Service's new mission statement that embraces the agency's role as an essential public service.
- He marshalled his fellow governors, Democrats and Republicans alike, to rebuff the Trump Administration's improper attempt to use credit negotiations with the Treasury Department's Federal Finance Bank to interfere with the management of the Postal Service.
- He and fellow governor Lee Moak led the board sub-committee overseeing the Postal Service's national election task force, which successfully handled the huge surge in vote by mail in 2020 caused by the pandemic.
- He fought for the Board to call for broad relief for the USPS in the various Covid-19 recovery bills.

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- He pushed the Board to strongly support maintaining 6-day service for letters and 7-day service for packages – a position now embraced by Postmaster General DeJoy, unlike his three immediate predecessors.
- He has been a strong voice for including both a growth strategy and a commitment to electrify the postal vehicle fleet in the agency's Delivering for America business plan.
- And he has opened regular lines of communication between the Board of Governors and the presidents of the four postal unions, including invitations to meet with the Board on a regular basis.

NALC has not agreed with all the decisions made by the Board of Governors, led by Mr. Bloom and the Postmaster General; we especially do not support proposals to slow the delivery of some (mostly cross-country) mail and packages. But Bloom has been a positive force and has worked with the Postmaster General to build broad bipartisan support for postal reform legislation that all four postal unions and most of the mailing industry strongly support.

At this crucial moment in the near 250-year history of the Postal Service, steady, savvy, and experienced leadership is essential. I therefore urge President Biden to re-nominate Ron Bloom to serve a full term on the USPS Board of Governors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fredric V. Rolando". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "F" and "R".

Fredric V. Rolando  
President  
National Association of Letter Carriers