

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 31, 2022

Mr. Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 10300
Washington, DC 20260

The Honorable Roman Martinez IV
Chairman
USPS Board of Governors
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 10300
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy and Chairman Martinez,

I write to express my concern regarding ongoing reports of mail being stolen out of U.S. Postal Service (USPS) Blue Collection boxes. Reports that thieves are accessing USPS Blue Collection boxes to steal and then sort through mail to identify checks that they then use for personal gain are deeply troubling. Americans use the Postal Service to mail checks to pay their taxes and bills; they should not have to worry that those checks may be stolen.

In August 2020, the USPS Office of the Inspector General released a report that found that the USPS management controls over the universal keys used to access the USPS Blue Collection boxes were ineffective. Specifically, they found that the number of these keys in circulation was unknown, and local units did not adequately report lost, stolen, or broken keys or maintain key inventories. Further, they found that the Postal Service did not restrict the number of replacement arrow keys that could be ordered. Such ineffective controls over these keys increases the risk that they will be lost or stolen.

I ask that you provide a response to the following questions within the next 30 days:

1. What mechanisms does the USPS have in place to identify and investigate instances in which universal keys have been lost or stolen? How does the USPS plan to improve these mechanisms?
2. What mechanisms does the USPS use to identify instances in which keys have been sold, rather than lost or stolen? Has the USPS identified instances in which these keys have been sold by Postal carriers?
3. What steps have the USPS taken to improve management controls over universal keys, including, but not limited to, addressing the recommendations provided by the USPS OIG in report number 19-033-R20?
4. What plans does the USPS have to mitigate theft of mail out of the USPS Blue Collection boxes?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

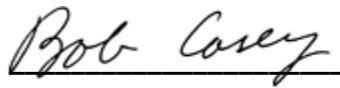
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Tom Carper", positioned above a horizontal line.

Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Rob Portman", positioned above a horizontal line.

Rob Portman
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bob Casey", positioned above a horizontal line.

Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Pat Toomey", positioned above a horizontal line.

Pat Toomey
United States Senator