

# Political and Election Mail Thursday, May 14th, 2020

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Lincoln Postal Customer Council is changing the May 14th Luncheon to a free ZOOM Meeting from 11:30 - 12:30. Please join us to learn more about political and election mail and how the US Postal Service will play an even more important role in the 2020 general election due to this unprecedented pandemic.

Join Zoom Meeting		
Phone one-tap:	US: +16783173330,,1616926465# or +16692161583,,1616926465#	
Meeting URL:	https://usps.zoomgov.com/j/1616926465?pwd=NXBoaU tzZVFWbThLemsvVU5LMzJuQT09	
Meeting ID: Password:	161 692 6465 374188	
Join by Telephone		
For higher quality, dial a number based on your current location.		
Dial: Meeting ID: Password:	US: +1 678 317 3330 or +1 669 216 1583 161 692 6465 374188	
Please note, you do NOT need a Zoom account to join the meeting.		

Questions? Please call Lorre Wobig at 402-473-1602. You may register online at <u>www.lincolnpcc.com</u>

## Postmaster's Update: Covid-19 Pandemic



The Covid-19 Pandemic has and will continue to have lasting impacts on many sectors of our economy. It is unclear how this pandemic will ultimately impact the United States Postal Service. Since this pandemic started, Lincoln

postal customers have seen no delay in the delivery and availability of their mail each day. Although there have been some changes to how we provide mail service to retirement, health care and nursing home communities, all customer's mail continues to be collected, processed, and delivered without failure in Lincoln each day. There have only been minor delivery delays across the country due to attendance issues and the vast majority of our dedicated employees continue to come to work and provide our essential services to the American Public. Perhaps we need to add "pandemic" to our unofficial motto. "Neither snow nor rain nor heat (nor pandemic) nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.

The Lincoln Postal Customer Council is committed to providing you with the most up to date information on the future of the US Postal Service, local changes that will impact you and vital information on how to use the power of the US Postal Service to support your business or organization.

Postmaster General Megan J. Brennan issued the following statement April 10 in response to discussions about including funding for the Postal Service in possible federal coronavirus economic stimulus legislation:

The men and women of the United States Postal Service provide an essential public service and bind the nation together as a part of the country's critical infrastructure. At least six days per week, and in some instances seven, Postal Service employees accept, process, transport and deliver vital mail and packages like medicine, products that sustain us, benefits checks and important information, in every community, to every home and residence, and we will continue to do so. As Americans are urged to stay home, the importance of the mail will only grow as people, including those in rural areas and senior citizens, will need access to vital communications, essential packages and other necessities.

We are at a critical juncture in the life of the Postal Service. At a time when America needs the Postal Service more than ever, the reason we are so needed is having a devastating effect on our business. The Postal Service relies on the sale of postal products and services to fund our operations, and these sales are plummeting as a result of the pandemic. The sudden drop in mail volumes, our most profitable revenue stream, is steep and may never fully recover. We now estimate that the COVID-19 pandemic will increase the Postal Service's net operating loss by more than \$22 billion over the next 18 months, and by over \$54 billion over the longer term, threatening our ability to operate.

As Congress and the administration take steps to support businesses and industries around the country, it is imperative that they also take action to shore up the finances of the Postal Service and enable us to continue to fulfill our indispensable role during the pandemic and to play an effective role in the nation's economic recovery.

We are grateful for the heroism and commitment of our 630,000 postal employees who continue to serve the American public during this pandemic, and we look forward to working with policymakers on ensuring the solvency of the Postal Service.

KERRY KOWALSKI- LINCOLN POSTMASTER

## Save the Date: LPCC Workshop

Reserve Tuesday, September 22, 2020 on your calendar for the LPCC Fall Workshop. This half day workshop, held in conjunction with National PCC Week, will give a full update on what's new with the US Postal Service. In addition there will be several educational sessions to help you best utilize the mail for your organizations' benefit.



Detailed information to come this summer.

## **Political and Election Mail**

Lancaster County Election Commissioner Dave Shively, US Postal Service National Voter Outreach Strategist Jon Langenfeld and Lincoln BMEU Supervisor Bruce Ritter will provide virtual attendees with the latest information on political and election mailings including:

- Primary Election voting results including the number of absentee ballots requested and received.
- The benefits for voting by mail for the Election Commission
- The importance to voting by mail during this pandemic
- Using mail for political candidates to raise money and reach voters to share their message
- Talk about vote by mail and how we are here to support and assist elected officials use this to support the election process
- Local BMEU acceptance procedures for political and election mail
- Important mailing dates for political and election mail

Please join us on for this ZOOM meeting to discuss this important topic. There is no need to pre-register.

## 2020 National Postal Forum Cancelled

A s you know, the National Postal Forum (NPF) and the United States Postal Service (USPS) leadership have been closely monitoring the situation related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019



(COVID-19) over the past several weeks with the health and safety of our employees and attendees as the priority. We have been taking our guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and public health departments. The CDC issued the following statement on Sunday, March 15th – "Therefore, CDC, in accordance with its guidance for large events and mass gatherings, recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States."

As a result of this guidance and out of an abundance of caution, we are cancelling the 2020 National Postal Forum.

Please save the date for the 2021 National Postal Forum: May 2 – 5, 2021 in Nashville, TN.

#### LPCC EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## Lincoln Postal Customer Council

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#### Lincoln PCC Events more info at <u>lincolnpcc.com</u>

05/14/2020 LPCC Quarterly Luncheon Zoom meeting

09/22/2020 National PCC Week Southeast Community College Continuing Education Center

11/12/2020 LPCC Quarterly Luncheon Valentino's Grand Buffet Greater Omaha PCC Events more info at greateromahapcc.com

06/2020 Quarterly meeting Location TBD

06/2020 GOPCC Annual Golf Outing Quarry Oaks

#### **U.S. POSTAL SERVICE CONTACTS**

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# Thanks to those contributing to this newsletter issue:

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