



United States Postal Service (USPS)

Timeline of Attacks

- **December 2024:** President-elect Donald Trump hinted at his intention to privatize the U.S. Postal Service.
- **February 19, 2025:** Postmaster General Louis DeJoy asked the Postal Service Board of Governors to begin a search for his successor.
- **February 24, 2025:** President Trump publicly floated the idea of a Commerce Department takeover of the USPS, which could remove USPS's independence.
- **March 5, 2025:** While speaking at a Morgan Stanley technology conference, Elon Musk said the Postal Service should be privatized "as much as possible."
- **March 18, 2025:** DeJoy agreed to a cost-cutting deal, allowing DOGE representatives to infiltrate the agency to root out "further inefficiencies."
- **March 24, 2025:** Louis DeJoy officially resigned and appointed Deputy Postmaster General Doug Tulino as the interim leader.
- **March - May 2025:** Tulino initiated a series of high-level meetings between interim USPS leadership and DOGE operatives Alex Simonpour and Ethan Shaotran to discuss ethics, pricing strategy, and exigent price increases. The meetings later expanded to include DOGE chief attorney James Burnham and James Sherk, a White House official involved in reduction in force efforts.
- **July 17, 2025:** David Steiner began his tenure as the new Postmaster General.

Impacts on Capacity

Under a formal agreement signed with the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) and the General Services Administration (GSA), Postmaster General Louis DeJoy committed to a drastic downsizing of the postal workforce. The agreement outlined a 30-day window to remove 10,000 employees from the postal workforce via an early retirement program. By August, the Postal Service's third quarter financial report showed nearly 10,500 employees had taken the early retirement offer.

Material Harms

DOGE joined Postal Service leadership in implementing plans that threatened the postal service's universal service obligation and 6-day delivery standard, which will likely result in delayed or lost mail—including time-sensitive medication, legal documents, ballots and benefit checks. Rural, indigenous, and remote areas that rely on USPS for "last-mile delivery" are at especially high risk of being cut off from services. Should Musk get his wish of privatization, these issues will only be further exacerbated.

According to a USPS internal review published in May 2025, its delivery time for first-class letters had been 5% slower in the two preceding years. While not directly attributable to DOGE, the poor performance is likely due to DeJoy's past cost-cutting



measures, a mantle DOGE happily took up.

Notable Names

Ousted Leadership

- **Louis DeJoy:** Postmaster General who stepped down shortly after signing an agreement with DOGE to allow the agency to find “further efficiencies” at USPS.

DOGE Agents

- **Alex Simonpour**
- **James Burnham**
- **Ethan Shaotran**