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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0913**

November 24, 2020

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The Honorable Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW  
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Postmaster DeJoy,

I write to you regarding the safety of letter carriers who are delivering mail after dark.

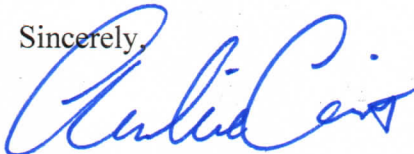
As you know, our frontline employees at the U.S. Postal Service have been more critical than ever during the pandemic. They have put their health and safety on the line, working longer hours than normal to deliver mail, packages, medication, and ballots reliably, and as quickly as possible.

Much attention has rightly been paid to the provision of personal protective equipment for postal employees to protect against the virus. But I have recently been made aware that letter carriers face yet another safety issue. Specifically, letter carriers in my district who deliver the mail on foot or by bicycle after dark, an occurrence that has increased due to the pandemic workload, report that they lack the reflective vests and flashlights they need to do the job safely. The increased volume of mail plus the shorter days of winter mean that many of these workers spend hours on the streets after sundown with nothing to help them see or be seen, making their job harder and leaving them vulnerable to passing motorists.

I know you share my belief that it is the responsibility of the United States Postal Service to keep the workforce safe. To that end, what nighttime gear, including reflective vests and flashlights, are currently available? If you do find that the availability is inadequate, what steps will the USPS undertake to rectify this issue?

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,



Charlie Crist  
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN