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(Left picture) Postmaster General Louis DeJoy (r) swears in Rebecca Kruckenberg (l) as Rockford's new postmaster with her husband Richard Stryker. (Right picture) Postmaster General Louis DeJoy addressing employees at the Rockford, IL, Post Office.

In Rockford, Postmaster General DeJoy Assesses Holiday Preparations, Says Americans Should Feel Confident Sending Holiday Mail and Packages with Postal Service

- *As part of visit, DeJoy swears in 24-year Postal Service veteran as new Rockford Postmaster*
- *Holiday peak season preparations include investments in new high-speed package processing equipment, seasonal hiring drives and expanded facilities across the Upper Midwest, nationwide*

ROCKFORD, IL — As the U.S. Postal Service prepares for the 2021 holiday peak season, U.S. Postal Service Postmaster General and CEO Louis DeJoy met and heard from USPS employees at the Rockford Post Office on Friday. DeJoy has visited Postal Service facilities across the nation over recent weeks as the agency readies for another potentially historic period of mail and package deliveries. As part of his Midwest facility tour, DeJoy also met with Postal Service employees and toured USPS facilities in Madison and Milwaukee.

As part of his Rockford visit, Postmaster General DeJoy swore-in Rebecca A. Kruckenberg as the 34th Postmaster of Rockford. Kruckenberg has more than two decades of Postal Service experience, having worked her way from a Rural Carrier Associate up through various managerial positions in Wisconsin and Illinois. Kruckenberg is well regarded for her dedicated leadership, commitment to exceeding performance standards and passion for the Postal Service.

"It's an honor to be in Rockford to meet our employees in-person and to personally swear-in Postmaster Kruckenberg," said DeJoy. "I am energized by the conversations I have been having here

in Rockford and across the country with our Postal Service employees who have been working all year long to prepare for the upcoming holiday season.”

“We started investing in our equipment, people and facilities for the holiday season earlier than ever and we are ready to deliver,” DeJoy added. “Our customers should feel confident sending their holiday mail and packages through the Postal Service this year.”

Since April, the Postal Service has installed 88 of 112 new package sorting machines across the nation including Chicago, Des Moines, Grand Rapids, Minneapolis and Milwaukee. These new machines, part of a 10-year, \$40 billion planned investment established in the Postal Service’s Delivering for America plan, will accommodate higher package volumes expected this holiday season and help expedite sortation and delivery to their local destinations. Additionally, more than 50 package systems capable of sorting large packages are expected to be deployed prior to December. With this new equipment, the Postal Service can sort an additional 4.5 million packages each day.

The Postal Service is also investing heavily in its people and facilities to meet the anticipated delivery demands of the 2021 holiday peak season. This includes a [national drive](#) to hire an additional 40,000 seasonal employees and the leasing of an additional 7.5 million square feet across more than 40 multiyear annexes that will create more space, resolve bottlenecks and improve the flow of mail and packages to customers.

The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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