THANK YOU … for meeting with us. We’d like to talk with you about the Postal Service and service to your constituents. Here are some materials that are associated with our message today. [Provide NAPS Packet. If available, also provide Tablet with slides ready to view and swipe.]

SLIDE 1 - CAPITOL
We are members of the National Association of Postal Supervisors. We are not a union; we are a postal management association. Our members supervise and manage the mail processing, delivery, retail and support functions of the Postal Service. We play a critical role in assuring that your constituents receive the best service possible. We want the nation’s postal system to succeed.

More than 500 Postal Supervisors are meeting with Congressional offices on the Hill this week.

[NOTE: Talk about the postal facility or facilities where you work and their role.]

SLIDE 2 – CONSTITUTION AND THE POSTAL SERVICE
As you may know, the Postal Service and the nation’s system of post offices are established by the Constitution.

SLIDE 3 – OTHER THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE POSTAL SERVICE
In addition, the Postal Service is NOT taxpayer-funded. By law, the Postal Service is self-funded and has operated that way since 1970. Our revenues come from sales – of postage and mail products, not taxes.

Also, The Postal Service is one of our most trusted and important government agencies. We provide universal service six days a week to every corner of America, no matter how small or remote. Americans pay for postal service at a cost far less than anywhere else in the industrialized world.

The Postal Service supports millions of jobs in virtually every other sector of our economy. Seven percent of America’s GNP is linked directly to postal activity. It also provides decent-paying jobs to some 500,000 Americans and is the largest employer of our nation’s veterans.

Postal jobs contribute to the economic vitality of your Congressional District and our state.

[Provide the USPS Economic Impact Statement and fill-in the slots below.]

_____________ jobs and __________ tax dollars are generated by the Postal Service in our Congressional district.

_____________ jobs and __________ tax dollars are generated throughout our state.
**SLIDE 4 – USPS PROFITABILITY**
The Postal service is returning to profitability. Online shopping and ecommerce has boosted our package revenue. It means that the internet is actually a “net positive” for USPS. The Postal Service has been operationally profitable since October 2012. It earned an operating profit of $1.4 billion last year and $1.1 billion in the most recent fiscal quarter.

**SLIDE 5 – PREFUNDING**
But the Postal Service still shows a net financial loss after factoring in the Postal Service’s obligation to prepay $5.6 billion annually for future retiree health benefits, 75 years into the future, unlike other federal agencies and major corporations. We think this misguided prefunding requirement, established by Congress in 2006, needs to be eliminated or tempered. The Postal Service already has set aside nearly $50 billion for future retiree health benefits.

**SLIDE 6 – SLOW-DOWN OF MAIL**
We’re also concerned about the slow-down of mail and the Postal Service’s reduction of service standards that permit the one-day slow-down. We believe Congress should restore the service standards that require overnight mail delivery in metropolitan areas and require prompt delivery in rural areas. Otherwise, this slow-down will ultimately contribute to further volume decline and harm the Postal Service’s brand.

**SLIDE 7 - CONSOLIDATION OF 82 POSTAL PROCESSING PLANTS**
The Postal Service has slowed the mail because of cost-cutting that will close 82 mail processing facilities in 37 states, on top of 140 mail processing plants that were closed or consolidated in 2012. These moves will eliminate excess capacity, but also destroy about 15,000 jobs and further dismantle the mail processing network.

*[Talk about local examples of slow down and erosion in service.]*

**SLIDE 8 – CARRIER AT NIGHT**
In some cases, greater mail travel time has resulted in later delivery of mail by letter carriers, sometime in the evening hours. This situation has not been well-received by business and residential customers who need their mail delivered during normal daytime hours. It also has created safety risks for carriers.

*[PULL OUT THE “BILLS TO COSPONSOR” SHEET FROM THE PACKET]*

**SLIDE 9 – H.Res. 54 and H.R. 784**
We are asking House Members to cosponsor two bills that will help to preserve the prompt mail service to rural and metropolitan areas around the country by restoring the service standards the Postal Service eliminated in 2012. Those two bipartisan measures are H.Res.54 and H.R.784.

*We’re also encouraging all Congressional offices to ask the Postal Service for historical performance data, over the past five years, that we believe will demonstrate the erosion in mail service that’s come about in their Congressional
districts and states. Here’s the question we suggest you ask the Postal Service. [Provide “Ask the Postal Service About Erosion in Service” Sheet.

SLIDE 10 - MAIL TRUCK ON FIRE
Meanwhile, the Postal Service faces a crisis in its vehicle fleet, the largest commercial fleet in the world with nearly 200,000 mail trucks and vehicles. The fleet is outdated, with the most vehicles reaching the end of their operational lives and in need of replacement. Fires in postal trucks are occurring increasingly. USPS announced in January a plan to acquire 180,000 new trucks that will be better equipped to handle parcels and are more fuel-efficient, a sign of its improved financial posture.

SLIDE 11 - INNOVATIVE MAIL SERVICES
We believe the Postal Service could grow new revenue and regain financial stability by offering innovative services and products, if permitted by Congress. For example, it is against the law for us to notarize or make copies of documents in post offices; to cash checks; or to deliver beer or wine. Some of these initiatives could come about through public-private partnerships. According to the Postal Service Inspector General, the Postal Service could generate nearly $9 billion a year by providing limited banking services -- particularly to the unbanked. These services will permit the Postal Service to grow new revenue and restore financial stability.

SLIDE 12 – MSPB APPEAL RIGHTS
We’re also asking House and Senate lawmakers to cosponsor legislation that would standardize Merit Systems Protection Board appeal rights for all postmasters and postal supervisors and managers. It would extend MSPB appeal rights to 7500 mid-level managers who currently may only challenge significant personnel actions through an unfair internal appeal process within the Postal Service. Please cosponsor H.R. 1198 or S. 606.

Ultimately we hope that Congress will take action that restores fairness for all mid-level managers and supervisors.

In addition, we are working with Congressional oversight committees to bring about legislation that provides financial stability to the Postal Service, preserves service and provides the tools that the Postal Service needs to grow new revenue.

Before we leave, we are inviting lawmakers and staff to visit (or revisit) our postal facility to see and learn about the challenges we face in assuring the timely delivery of mail to homes and businesses in our district/state.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND FOR LISTENING TO US.

[Take photos, exchange business cards, etc.]
GETTING TO CAPITOL HILL ON METRO

Depart from the Crystal City Metro Station, which is easily accessible from the Crystal Gateway Marriott through the hotel lobby corridor attached to the Crystal City Underground. In the Crystal City Underground, follow the signs to the Metro.

House Office Buildings (Cannon, Longworth or Rayburn)

Destination – Capitol South (Blue or Orange Line)

• From the Crystal City Metro Station, take the Yellow Line in direction of Mt. Vernon Square or Gallery Place
• Transfer at L’Enfant Plaza to the Blue or Orange Line in direction of New Carrollton (Orange Line) or Addison Road (Blue Line)
• Depart at Capitol South Metro Stop

Senate Office Buildings (Russell, Dirksen or Hart)

Destination -- Union Station (Red Line)

• From the Crystal City Metro Station, take the Yellow Line in direction of Mt. Vernon Square or Gallery Place
• Transfer at Gallery Place to the Red Line in direction of Silver Spring or Glenmont
• Depart at Union Station Metro Stop

SNACKS AND DOWNTIME ON THE HILL

Senate Side
Dirksen SOB  Cafeteria on Basement Level  Dirksen Tunnel Connection
Dirksen SOB  Senate Cafe  Dirksen G-21

House Side
Longworth HOB  Longworth Food Court  Room B223
Rayburn HOB  Rayburn Cafeteria  B357
Rayburn HOB  Gourmet Deli  B326

U.S. Capitol Visitors Center  -- Cafeteria