



January 12, 2021

JOSEPH WOLSKI

SUBJECT: Audit Resolution – Employee Safety – Postal Service COVID-19 Response
(Report 20-259-R21) Recommendation #4

Representatives of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and management held an audit resolution meeting on December 15, 2020, to discuss management's disagreement with Recommendation #4 as stated in the November 6, 2020, management response in the subject final audit report.

Recommendation #4: Evaluate options and implement a nationwide health screening initiative, which may include employee self-certification.

The recommendation was discussed, and additional actions described below were proposed by the OIG.

OIG proposed additional action #1: "You agreed to provide us with a letter detailing what options you are evaluating and the estimated target implementation date for implementation."

The Postal Service, in conjunction with its union partners, is currently evaluating a proof-of-concept pilot program in two major metropolitan processing plants involving employee temperature taking and COVID testing. The Postal Service cannot implement such a pilot unilaterally. Although the implementation date is subject to agreement with the unions on how and when to proceed, we have set a target date of June 30, 2021.

In addition, the Postal Service worked closely with Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Health and Human Services, Operation Warp Speed, and the Centers for Disease Control to ensure postal employees have access to the COVID vaccine during Phase 1B of the vaccine deployment. The Postmaster General also wrote to the Governor of each state urging their support in this effort.

As a result, the Postal Service has successfully attained Phase 1B status in all jurisdictions. Now that Operation Warp Speed has moved from distribution to administration, it is up to each jurisdiction to establish a process and timeline for making vaccines available to Postal employees. The timeline for Phase 1B ranges from late January through May depending on the jurisdiction. While there is currently no standardized approach for vaccine distribution across jurisdictions, the Postal Service is monitoring each jurisdiction and county in order to properly advise our employees on how to get vaccinated.

As local jurisdictions begin offering the vaccine to Postal employees, a nationwide screening initiative may be rendered unnecessary.

Target Implementation Date: June 30, 2021

Responsible Officials: Manager, Contract Administration (APWU)



Katherine S. Attridge

cc. Mr. Tulino
Mr. Storey
Ms. Haring