

## **Confessions of a Former Station Manager – Congressional Response**

Surely your boss would never falsify or engage in fraud or schemes in order to get undeserved raises and bonuses. If they did, there is section of Federal Law called Title 18, which includes criminal penalties such as fines, and imprisonment of up to 5 years. It's enforced too! Enforced, only, however, against Letter Carriers and craft personnel. So when a Letter Carrier engages in falsification or fraud, they're out the door.

What about Executives?

Title 18 actually pertains to Executives!

This is where the problem lies. The Office of Inspector General and the US Postal Inspection Service do not pursue prosecution against Executives. Why? Because the OIG and USPSIS report to the Executives. There is no external unprejudiced Law Enforcement group that deals with such issues within the US Postal Service.

Now, I'm not saying all Executives are bad. In every organization, however, there are a few bad apples. Some are in very powerful positions. In my over 25 years of working in the US Postal Service I can testify to the fact that I have met hundreds of hard working good honest bosses. (Whether we carriers want to admit that or not). What happens, though to the tiny percentage of Executives who do engage in criminal falsifications, fraud, or schemes? Can you really see an OIG agent asking to investigate his boss? Not his OIG boss, but the boss he reports to in the Operations part of the US Postal Service.

Ask yourself, too, why you've never heard of big bosses doing time for fraud or schemes other than financial theft. Have you ever wondered why you read in the news about people in Executive positions getting away with things a hundred times worse than you've gotten your last Letter of Warning for?

Well, I take real issue with it. A friend of mine, today, called me. I was told of some fraudulent activity that was going on and asked what they had done about it. The friend laughed and said, "What. So I can end up like YOU?"

Recently I wrote to my congressman. You should too! It's easy, and it's our right to do so. I wanted to know what he was doing about possible ethical and criminal violations within the US Postal Service. You can read my letter to him here:

[http://www.congress.org/congressorg/bio/userletter/?letter\\_id=5639447596](http://www.congress.org/congressorg/bio/userletter/?letter_id=5639447596)

Well.

He responded.

See below:

ELTON GALLEGLY  
24TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA  
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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0524

September 8, 2010

- COMMITTEES:  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
• RANKING MEMBER, EUROPE  
• WESTERN HEMISPHERE
- JUDICIARY  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
• VICE RANKING MEMBER, IMMIGRATION,  
CITIZENSHIP, REFUGEES, BORDER SECURITY  
AND INTERNATIONAL LAW  
• COURTS, THE INTERNET, AND INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY
- NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE:  
• INSULAR AFFAIRS
- HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
SUBCOMMITTEE:  
• TERRORISM, HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS  
AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

Mr. Guy D. Nohrenberg



Dear Mr. Nohrenberg:

In follow up to phone conversations you had with my staff, I want to explain in greater detail the efforts my office and I are making to investigate possible falsification and fraud at the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Due to the sensitive nature of this ongoing investigation, I am unable to give specific details. However, in early 2009, evidence was brought to my attention that USPS had a bonus system in place that possibly led to falsification and fraud. Further, there are allegations that when any USPS employee spoke out against this corruption or questioned any falsification, they were punished, and if possible, fired.

Since my staff and I have uncovered this information, I have forwarded this to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which has Congressional jurisdiction over the USPS. We have met on several occasions with the majority staff on the committee and provided them with reams of documentation to support the possible allegations. To date, the majority has decided against holding hearings on these charges or even launching a formal investigation. The minority, headed by Rep. Darrell Issa, and I believe that this information does warrant a full investigation. Please be assured that I will continue to work on this issue and press for public hearings and an investigation into the matter.

While USPS has made signification changes in the past year in response the most recent Inspector General report on their bonus system, it is my belief the USPS has simply not yet undertaken the comprehensive reforms that are necessary. If you have any, or know of anyone else who has specific documented allegations of wrongdoing at the USPS, I would be happy to forward the evidence to the Inspector General for a proper investigation.

Again, I hope this letter answers your questions and concerns with USPS. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Elton Gallegly', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

ELTON GALLEGLY  
Member of Congress

EG/ks

Congressman Gallegly is up for re-election this year. I am very interested in what he said in his response and appreciate him taking the time to share what he could with me.

His opponent for the 24<sup>th</sup> District wrote as well, and in all fairness and impartiality, I am including both. See below:

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*Dear Mr. Nohrenberg,*

*9/8/2010*

*Thank you for your recent letter. Although we are in full campaign mode, I wanted to take a moment to respond to the excellent issues you raised in your letter to Congressman Gallegly. It is very unfortunate that his response to your letters and inquiries has been so poor.*

*I believe that those who work for the US Postal Service are providing a great service to the American people. With a near universal success rate at delivering items, we have all come to take for granted that letters, cards and important communications will arrive safely and timely, all at a bargain rate. I am opposed to eliminating a day from the delivery schedule. I believe the current six day per week schedule works well and serves the public well.*

*As to your concern about ethical breeches by executives in the USPS, I completely agree that we must ensure that actions by the leaders are fair, legal and ethical. The public and USPS employees have a reasonable expectation that taxpayer dollars are being spent wisely and efficiently. If fortunate enough to be elected, I would work to make sure that we root out corruption of this sort through whistle-blowers and investigations by our Congressional oversight committees. We should not let the actions of a few damage the reputation of the entire organization.*

*I agree that the National Association of Letter Carriers is a great group which does a fantastic job representing the hard-working women and men who work for the US Postal Service. I am proud to have secured the endorsement of NALC in my campaign for Congress.*

*Sincerely,*

*Tim Allison  
Candidate for Congress, CA-24*

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So what do you think? Write YOUR congressman at: <http://www.congress.org/> and participate in what's affecting YOUR future! If you don't do it right after reading this, then you get a time out in the no whining zone and everyone in the office tomorrow will know.

Be Well! Work Proud!

Guy Nohrenberg