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On Tuesday (August 28) of last week the Senate by voice vote approved the nominations of Robert M. Duncan of Kentucky, and David Williams of Illinois, to serve as Governors on the USPS Board of Governors (BOG). Also, on the same day the Trump administration announced the nominations of Ron A. Bloom of New York and Roman Martinez IV of Florida, to be considered by the Senate as additional Governors to the BOG.

### **Background**

The Board of Governors (BOG) of the U.S. Postal Service is comparable to a board of directors of a publicly held corporation. The Board normally consists of up to nine governors appointed by the President of the United States with the advice and consent of the Senate. No more than five of the nine Governors can be of the same political party.

The nine governors select the Postmaster General, who becomes a member of the Board, and those 10 select the Deputy Postmaster General, who also serves on the Board. The Postmaster General serves at the pleasure of the governors for an indefinite term and the Deputy Postmaster General serves at the pleasure of the governors and the Postmaster General.

Since January of 2017, for approximately 19 months, the BOG has been without Governors which now officially changes with the recent approval of the aforementioned individuals. Assuming the timely approval of the two pending nominees this would fill 4 of the 9 vacant positions and serve as a quorum to provide management oversight to the Postal Service on important decisions relating to postal rates, regulatory changes, new products, sale promotions, long range planning, etc.

### **Confirmed and Nominated Governors Backgrounds**

Robert M. "Mike" Duncan was the chairman of the Republican National Committee. He was elected in January 2007, replacing Ken Mehlman, and served until January 30, 2009, when he withdrew from renomination to the chairmanship. He became the chairman of the board of directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority effective May 18, 2009. Duncan stepped down as TVA chairman in May 2010 to become the founding chairman of American Crossroads, a 527 Super PAC organization.

Dave Williams has served as IG (Inspector General) for five federal agencies. He was first appointed by President George H. Bush to serve as IG for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission from 1989 to 1996. President William Clinton next appointed him IG for the Social Security Administration from 1996 to 1998, and then as IG for of the Department of the Treasury in 1998. In 1999, President Clinton named him as the first IG for Tax Administration of the Department of Treasury. In 2001 President George W. Bush named Williams the Acting IG for HUD, while he was also serving at the Department of the Treasury.

Ron Bloom was a senior official in the Obama Administration from February 2009 to August 2011. This included working as the Assistant to the President for Manufacturing Policy between February 2011 and August 2011, in the Department of the Treasury as a Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Treasury and member of the President's Task Force on the Automotive Industry, and also as Senior Counselor to the U.S. President for Manufacturing Policy.

Roman Martinez IV, has been a private investor since 2003. In 2003, he retired as Managing Director of Lehman Brothers, an investment banking firm, following a 31-year career with the firm. He has served on the Board of Trustees of New York Presbyterian Hospital since 1996. Other Public Company Directorships: Orbital ATK, Inc. (2015-Present), Alliant Techsystems, Inc. (2004-2015) Finance. He also serves as a current board member of the Cigna corporation.

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