



Released April 16, 2018

Late on the evening of April 12, President Trump issued an executive order (EO) establishing a "Task Force" (TF) on evaluate the United States Postal System. A copy of the EO can be found at "<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-task-force-united-states-postal-system/>".

Accordingly, the TF will have broad authority to investigate issues impacting the Postal Service and the postal ecosystem in general. The TF will be expected to report on their findings not later than **120 days** of its start. The TF chairperson (when selected) will be assigned to the Secretary of the Treasury with TF membership composed of the following department and agency heads:

- Director of the Office of Management and Budget;
- Director of the Office of Personnel Management; and
- Any other department and / or agency head that the Chair may designate.

As further explained in the executive order, the TF will take into consideration the views of:

- Commercial and Nonprofit users of USPS services;
- Residential users of USPS services;
- The USPS workforce;
- The Postmaster General;
- The Chairman of the Postal Regulatory Commission; and
- Other USPS competitors in the marketplace

As mentioned above, the TF will be expected to issue a formal report (*by approximately August 9*) which has evaluated Postal Service operations and finances. More specifically, the report will be expected to offer **recommendations for administrative and legislative reforms** to the United States postal system such that:

- They promote the Nation's commerce and communication without shifting additional costs to taxpayers; and
- If necessary reorganize Postal Service oversight consistent with the Administration's "**Executive Order 13781**" of **March 13, 2017**, which basically calls for the elimination of unnecessary agencies and components of agencies, and agency programs.

It is not clear how this TF process will affect the work by the Postal Regulatory Commission's "10-year review" or the legislative efforts by Congress in both the House (HR 756) and Senate (S. 2629). Nevertheless, industry reaction to bring additional focus and attention to a Postal Service facing daunting challenges was positive. Recommendations developed in an open and transparent process which will restructure the postal system and its business model are necessary but represents an in-depth project that will certainly take time.

RR Donnelley will monitor these events and provide additional updates as needed.