



‘WHO’S AFRAID OF VOTE-BY-MAIL?’

A Recap of APWU Live with President Smith

On Tuesday, May 12, APWU President Jonathan Smith hosted a livestream conversation on democracy and the importance of Vote-by-Mail, discussing why it remains a trusted and effective option for millions of Americans, and what’s at stake for our communities. In light of recent attacks on Vote-by-Mail, President Smith asked the big question – who’s afraid of Vote-by-Mail, and why are other attacks on our democracy coming down the pike?

Special guest Rob Weissman of Public Citizen, a nonprofit consumer advocacy organization that champions the public interest in Congress, defends democracy, resists corporate power, and fights to ensure that government works for the people – not big corporations, joined President Smith for the discussion on Vote-by-Mail. They also spent time breaking down the recent Supreme Court decision in the Louisiana v. Callais case, which will likely have a negative impact on voting rights nationwide.

Postal workers are proud of the essential role we play in the elections process, helping Americans exercise their right to vote by mail, and know just how much is at stake

each election season. Postal workers across the country step up to the job, taking extraordinary measures to move millions of ballots and election mail with precision, security, and care.

Vote-by-Mail is not new; it is a trusted, time-tested, and essential tool for millions of Americans to cast their ballots, providing the flexibility that seniors, military members, and working people rely on to participate in free and fair elections. That is why recent attacks on Vote-by-Mail and broader threats to the voting rights of everyday Americans should concern all of us who believe in freedom and democracy.

At the APWU, we are proud of the role we play in protecting the democratic process. The May episode of APWU Live pulled back the curtain for all to see who really is afraid of Vote-by-Mail, and why.

Visit apwu.org/live or scan the QR code to watch the recording



Watch and share the the APWU’s 30-second digital ad on Vote-by-Mail that debuted in April. The ad has a clear message: “Vote-by-Mail – keep it, protect it, expand it.”



APWU.ORG/LEADERSHIP

APPLICATIONS OPEN
NOW



APPLICATION DEADLINE JUNE 26, 2026

APWU SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 31, 2026

APWU Scholarship Program applications are due by May 31, 2026. Your graduating high school seniors are welcome to apply for either the Vocational Scholarship, E.C. Hallbeck Memorial Scholarship, or Best Essay Award. For application forms and eligibility requirements, visit apwu.org/scholarships.

The E.C. Hallbeck Memorial Scholarship will award \$8,000 (\$2,000 annually) to 10 recipients (one male and one female from each of the five postal regions) to apply towards their four-year college tuition.

Vocational Scholarship winners will receive up to \$3,000 for specialized training in such fields as culinary arts, medical or dental assistant, electrician, real estate, auto mechanic, certified IT/computer education, cosmetology, or massage therapy, etc. Eligible programs can be of a nine-month to three-year duration.

One “Best Essay” winner is selected from the applicant pool to receive a one-time \$2,000 award towards their four-year college tuition.

Applicants must be the child, grandchild, stepchild, or legally adopted child, of a current, retired, or deceased APWU member and a senior attending high school or other secondary school. Encourage your high school graduate to apply today! Download an application at apwu.org/scholarships.

APWU HOLDS MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABLE FOR SAFETY ON WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY



On Workers' Memorial Day, APWU members took action across the country to shine a light on the need for safety in postal installations and to honor those who were injured or lost their lives on the job.

During the day, postal workers wore stickers branded with the Talk is Cheap: Safety Matters campaign slogan. By wearing stickers and submitting photos and selfies, postal workers showed that we are standing together in force to hold management accountable to the safety provisions guaranteed to us by our union contract.

Workers' Memorial Day, observed annually on April 28, is also the day the *Occupational Safety and Health Act* took effect in 1970, and the day the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) was created in 1971.

This year, hundreds of APWU members took action by wearing stickers and sending us pictures. Even more filled out the safety checklists that we mailed to them. These

checklists help workers familiarize themselves with the basic information they need to stay safe at work, such as ensuring emergency numbers are up to date, and they know where to find the *PS Form 1767 Report of Hazard, Unsafe Condition or Practice* if they need to report a safety hazard.

By staying informed, vigilant, and united, postal workers are making sure management treats workplace safety with the seriousness it deserves. This action shows that we are done accepting excuses and false promises and are ready to do what it takes to protect ourselves and our coworkers on the workroom floor.

To help make your voices heard, APWU National is also asking you to take a short, two-minute survey about your safety experience at work. We want to know what safety looks like to you. What do you need to hold management accountable for our right to a safe and healthy workplace?

APWU members who complete the online survey will be entered for a chance to win a \$50 gift card to the APWU online store.

Make your voice heard. Scan the QR code to take the APWU Safety Survey, or visit: apwu.org/safety-survey

