Twitter Thread by Megan Mineiro

Megan Mineiro
@MMineiro_CNS

Hearing coming up at the top of the hour on the USPS lawsuits over possible delayed delivery of mail-in ballots.

Yesterday, Judge Sullivan indicated Postmaster DeJoy was not "off the hook" for failing to follow an Election Day order to sweep facilities for misplaced ballots.

Note that court staff have set up two more public lines after hundreds of people dialed in yesterday:

Sullivan, Emmet G.	• Toll Free Number: 888-363-4734 • Access Code: 6114909 • Toll Free Number: 877-336-1839 • Access Code: 8943273 • Toll Free Number: 888-363-4734 • Access Code: 9752762

We also got a dump of data from USPS in the last hour or so on:

Extra and late trips
On-time delivery percentages
Number of inbound/outbound ballots processed

(all stats the agency has been sharing/updating daily over the last week)

DOJ has brought with today several USPS processing facility managers, per Sullivan's request yesterday, including from Philly, Central Penn, Greensboro and the Mid Carolinas.

Vote Forward attorney says the data USPS filed this morning suggests that 150K ballots were delivered yesterday, including 604 ballots in Atlanta and 7K in Pennsylvania.

Plaintiff attorney says in Atlanta 22.5% of ballots (around 136) were not processed on time, and in Penn 20% (around 1,400).

That means voters dropped the ballots in mail/ballot boxes and at post offices by Sat/Sun and they weren't delivered until Wed, 1 day after USPS planned.

Parties now discussing small changes to the following orders that Sullivan is ready to issue after the hearing:

[JOINT PROPOSED] ORDER

All USPS processing facilities that serve a state with an extended ballot receipt deadline shall, until that deadline passes, perform a morning ballot sweep (no later than 10 a.m., local time) and a mid-to-late afternoon ballot sweep that is timed to ensure that any identified local ballots can be delivered that day. Upon completing a sweep, each facility shall report to USPS Headquarters the total number of ballots identified and confirm that those ballots have been expedited for delivery to meet applicable extended state deadlines. Beginning on November 5, 2020, and until further order of the Court, Defendants shall promptly submit to Plaintiffs a single report with the total number of ballots identified through daily sweeps, with one exception: for facilities that are located in states whose ballot receipt deadline is that day, Defendants shall submit the results of those sweeps to Plaintiffs immediately following its receipt of the results of the second sweep at these facilities.

SO ORDERED.

DOJ attorney asking if the court can dismiss the USPS managers so they can get back to work.

Sullivan tells them before they leave he wants to say how much he appreciates and admires their work.

Nothing stops the post office, Sullivan said, adding he wanted to give the postwoman a big hug today and that his dog Zoey didn't even bark at her this morning.

Sullivan in a much better mood than yesterday, telling the parties "hope springs eternal."

He also just called out the plaintiffs for missing the midnight deadline on their proposed order -- then laughed and said "just kidding."

New tranche of records hit the docket, over 100 pages of "clean sweep" search checklists filled out by USPS plant managers:

PROCESSING OPERATIONS
HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Processing Operations Management Order

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

11-3-20 Tuesday

Operational Clean Sweep Search Checklist- Political and Election Mail

Purpose: *To provide an operational checklist to be used in performing a daily mail search. This list includes the minimal areas to check and is not limited to these areas within facility. Checklist must be retained by the District Political and Election Mail Operations Coordinator information for investigating possible missing or delayed Political and/or Election Mail.* **District:** Central PA **Name:** Jane DiCola

Title: Clerk In Plant Support **Phone #:** 717-396-6963

Check box when checked	Section/Operation: Defines the work area to be searched.	Comments: Specifics: include copies of PMOD label and /or container placard. Names of individuals contacted
☒	Incoming dock	1- York Ballot - mail Delivered 1- PHL Ballot- Pitch/catch to PHLNDC
☒	BMEU & BMEU Plant Staging	1 - Norristown Ballot - sent via Express thru Hbg. 1 - Pottsville Ballot - sent via Express sack
☒	Opening units APBS#1 + SPSS staging areas	
☒	AO / Station dispatch area	
☒	Outbound dock	
☒	Outgoing Dispatch Area	
☒	Trailers in yard (Yard Check)	Reading truck contained Ballots
☐	MTE Plant Staging Area N/A	
☐	MTE trailers N/A	
☐	Site MTESC N/A	
☒	PARS Staging and Operations	
☒	Rewrap Operations	
☐	CFS (if applicable) N/A	
☒	BRM/Postage Due	

23 ☒ Manual flats — 2 tubs of misc-political mail (missent flats) for 179/195/196 found after searching through 2-3 APCs for ballots dispatched to appropriate offices

☒ mini-breakdown (0) no ballots found in manual flats

☒ APBS #2

Plaintiff attorney running through data USPS provided last night (not on the public docket) on ballot processing.

Asked by NAACP what can be done to identify misplaced ballots that need to be delivered by today/tomorrow, Kevin Bray, USPS's head of 2020 election mail operations, said:

"The clean sweeps that we're doing and have been doing would identify what we're capturing and delivering."