



April 20, 2009

Mr. William Burrus  
President  
American Postal Workers  
Union, AFL-CIO  
1300 L Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005-4128

Certified Mail Tracking #:  
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Dear Bill:

This letter serves to update and clarify my March 30 correspondence regarding the current national voluntary early retirement authority (VERA).

The current national Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) offer has an effective VER date of July 31. This VER offer excludes electronic technicians (ET), maintenance mechanics, mail processing equipment mechanics (MPE), and part-time postmasters. However, eligible employees who wish to retire earlier than the July 31 date, may do so on May 31 or June 30.

In addition, my March 30 correspondence included a copy of the *National VERA Steps At-a-Glance* chart. The May 15 deadline for election and the irrevocable date listed in that chart refer to those employees who elect to retire on May 31. For eligible employees who elect to retire on June 30 or July 31, the deadline and irrevocable date is June 19.

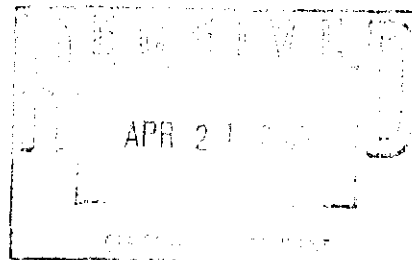
Enclosed for your reference is an updated chart which is posted on the Postal Service's *LiteBlue* website. The Postal Service continues to update the VERA information contained on the *LiteBlue* website, as necessary. Employees are encouraged to view *LiteBlue* regularly in order to stay abreast of any changes and updates.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Hércules at (202) 268-4356.

Sincerely,

John W. Dockins  
Manager  
Contract Administration (APWU)

Enclosure: *Updated National VERA Steps At-a-Glance Chart*



### National VER Steps At-a-Glance

This National Voluntary Early Retirement offer, which ends on July 31, 2009; has three effective dates. All VER applications for any of the three effective dates are subject to Area approval. Those effective dates are:

- May 31, 2009,
- June 30, 2009, or
- July 31, 2009.

Note that July 31, 2009 is the final effective date under this National VERA; there are no extensions at this time. VER is not a complicated process, but it does require some careful thinking on the part of eligible employees. To help you make an informed decision, please review the following quick steps and important dates. Use this summary of the instructions spelled out in the Offer Letter in conjunction with the annuity estimate and any other forms in the Offer Packet to make an informed decision.

#### Important Items:

Dates	What Happens	What Should You Do?
March 20, 2009	Postal Service announces 2009 VERA for All VER-eligible employees except Electronic Technicians (ET); Maintenance Mechanics, Mail Processing Equipment (MPE); Part-time Postmasters.	Don't panic! If you are VER-eligible, you will receive all assistance needed. Make sure your address of record is accurate.
April 6, 2009 to April 10, 2009	Annuity Estimates are mailed out to all VER eligible employees.	Study the estimate carefully and start considering your retirement options.
April 6, 2009 to April 10, 2009	VER Offer Packet mailed out to all VER-eligible employees.	Read through the information provided and in conjunction with the annuity estimate, make a decision whether voluntary early retirement is the best option for you.
April 10, 2009 to June 19, 2009	VER eligible employees must decide whether to apply for retirement during this period.	Complete all required forms, and send to the HRSSC (Human Resources Shared Service Center) per instructions provided. After your Acknowledgement of Irrevocability and Application for Immediate Retirement forms are received at the HRSSC (postmarked no later than June 19, 2009) you will be mailed additional forms required to complete the retirement process and information needed to schedule your retirement information session.

June 19, 2009	Required documents must be postmarked by this date and received at the HRSSC to take advantage of VER offer.	DON'T MISS THIS DEADLINE!
June 19, 2009	Sent in your retirement application and changed your mind? <b>SUBMIT REQUEST TO WITHDRAW BEFORE THIS TIME.</b>	If you REALLY want to withdraw your application, pay close attention to this deadline!
May 31, 2009, June 30, 2009, or July 31, 2009	Effective retirement date(s) for All VER-eligible employees except Electronic Technicians (ET); Maintenance Mechanics, Mail Processing Equipment (MPE); Part-time Postmasters.  Specific effective retirement date (one of three listed) depends on the selection made by the VER-eligible career employee.	If you applied for retirement and your application was approved, have a wonderful retirement!

**Related Information**

[FAQs \(Updated 9/5/08\)](#)  
[Retirement Videos](#)