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CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

May 15, 2014

Vice President, Facilities
c/o Facilities Implementation
2 Congress St., Room 8
Milton, MA 01757

Dear Sir or Madame:

I am writing to formally appeal the United States Post Office's decision to proceed with the relocation of retail services from the downtown New Bedford Post Office at 695 Pleasant St., New Bedford.

On behalf of the citizens of New Bedford, please receive the enclosed petition signed by nearly two hundred citizens expressing their strong opposition. I have stated my own opposition in previous verbal and written communications to Joseph Mulvey, Real Estate Specialist. As I explained to Mr. Mulvey, the downtown post office offers an important service to our citizens, is housed in a historically significant building named for the distinguished New Bedford native and retired U.S. District Judge George Leighton (one of the highest-ranking Cape Verdean Americans ever to serve in the United States government). Moreover, it goes without saying that this critical federal facility is an important part of the daily life of New Bedford's downtown.

I believe the move to relocate retail services is unwise, short-sighted, and potentially disruptive to the strong resurgence of activity that New Bedford's downtown has enjoyed over the past several years. I urge you in the strongest possible terms to reconsider your decision to relocate retail services from the post office at 695 Pleasant Street in New Bedford.

Sincerely,

Jon Mitchell
Mayor

cc: Senator Elizabeth Warren
Senator Edward Markey
Congressman William Keating
Congressman Stephen Lynch
State Senator Mark Montigny
State Representative Antonio Cabral
City Council President Joseph P. Lopes and
Honorable members of the City Council