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202-268-2155  
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## U.S. POSTAL SERVICE RANKED 11TH IN FORTUNE MAGAZINE'S TOP-50 "BEST COMPANIES FOR MINORITIES" LIST

WASHINGTON - For the fourth year in a row, the U.S. Postal Service ranks among the best of the nation's major companies in minority employment.

Fortune magazine's July 7, 2003, issue ranks the Postal Service 11th on its "Best Companies for Minorities" list. Notably, the Postal Service remains the highest ranked transportation/delivery service provider for the fourth consecutive year.

"Fortune's selection was based on the Postal Service's commitment to hiring, promoting and retaining an inclusive workforce," said the Postal Service's Vice President for Diversity Development Murry Weatherall. "Our commitment to diversity is vital to our organization."

Fortune noted that even while the total postal workforce decreased by three percent, minority representation increased, with minorities comprising 37 percent of new employees hired last year. The magazine also pointed to two in-house newsletters, Diversity Talk and Panorama, as further commitment to the diversity program.

The specific minority workforce breakdown in 2002 was 21.2 percent African American, 7.5 percent Hispanic, 7.0 percent Asian, and 0.6 percent Native American. Overall, 36.3 percent of Postal Service employees are minorities.

Minorities in the Postal Service are also well represented throughout all levels of management. As of the end of 2002, one-fifth (20.5 percent) of the top-paid executives and nearly one-third (31.3 percent) of all officials and managers were minorities.

Since 1775, the U.S. Postal Service has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. It is an independent federal agency that makes deliveries to about 140 million addresses every day and is the only service provider to deliver to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of more than \$66 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mail and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The U.S. Postal Service delivers more than 43 percent of the world's mail volume - some 203 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year - and serves seven million customers each day at its 38,000 retail locations nationwide.