



# POSTAL NEWS

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## **POSTAL OFFICIAL RAPS FOX-TV FOR SCURRILOUS PROGRAM**

WASHINGTON - In an unprecedented move, a senior U.S. Postal Service official called upon the nine million employees of the mailing industry and the three-quarters of a million employees of the Postal Service to contact the head of FOX Entertainment Group to protest the scurrilous and abusive depiction of postal workers in a "Mad TV" segment set to air Saturday.

In a promo for this coming Mad-TV show, two postal employees are seen brandishing guns, talking about a shooting spree as customers cower near the floor.

In a reference to the movie "Network" - starring Peter Finch - Azeezaly S. Jaffer, Vice President of Public Affairs and Communication declared, "I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore. For the last year, I've been working hard to 'Set The Record Straight' whenever a media outlet takes an unfair swipe at the Postal Service or its employees. And this is unfair. It's ugly. It's untrue. It's an insult to every man and woman in the Postal Service."

Mr. Jaffer issued a special message to employees and reached out to its postal partners in the mailing industry advising them of what was happening and urging them to contact Sandy Grushow, the Chairman of FOX Entertainment Group.

In August 2000, the U.S. Postal Service Commission On A Safe And Secure Workplace issued a 249-page report following a two-year study. The groundbreaking report includes the most comprehensive survey ever conducted of violence in the American workforce and was prepared by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.

As Commission Chairman Joseph A. Califano Jr. noted, "Going postal is a myth, a bad rap causing unnecessary apprehension and fear ...This report should shatter the myth that postal workers are more violent than other workers and discourage the pejorative use of that expression."

Mr. Jaffer noted, "It's my guess that they didn't even read it, and they probably just gave it a few seconds on their news show."

Mr. Jaffer told employees offended by the promotion of the program, "As our holiday commercial says, no one works harder or goes farther to keep us all connected for the holidays. That was true in 2001 when you were at the front lines in the war on terror. It was true last year. It's just as true this year. And this is what we get from FOX."

He appealed to employees "to join me in setting the record straight. I've never asked for your help before, but I need you with me on this one. Together, we're going to turn the volume up so high that senior executives at FOX hear us loud and clear - and pull this insulting piece. Funny's funny. And this skit isn't. Let's take the skit - and a lump of coal - and stuff it in FOX's Christmas stocking with the clear message, "Return to Sender!"