



January 31, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USPS Web Site: <http://www.usps.com>

**STATEMENT OF POSTMASTER GENERAL JOHN E. POTTER REGARDING
THE RELEASE OF FLORIDA LETTER CARRIER TONYA MITCHELL**

Just moments ago, I spoke to Tonya Mitchell. I know all of the members of the postal family are relieved to know that she is safe and join me in sending their best wishes to her and her family. We are proud of her. Her calm handling of a very difficult situation is a tribute to her professionalism and deep concern for the welfare of others. She is a true hero and exemplifies the highest ideals of public service.

Our employees are a visible and welcome presence in every community in our nation, every day of the week. Just by doing their jobs, delivering America's mail, they are exposed to dangers that few of us could ever imagine. Despite this, they do not turn from their duty. They are the heart and soul of every community they serve.

We are extremely grateful to the many local, county, state and federal law enforcement officials who helped to bring Tonya Mitchell to safety.

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