

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 14, 2007

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Release No. 07-44

Magazine Selects Postal Service Public-Sector Employer of the Year

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The nation's first and only career-guidance and recruitment magazine for people with disabilities who are at undergraduate, graduate or professional levels has named the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) Public-Sector Employer of the Year.

In its current issue (Spring 2007), *Careers & the disABLED* magazine says the Postal Service received the award "for its progressive efforts to recruit, hire, and promote people with disabilities" and was selected as one of the top five employers for whom readers would most like to work or believe is progressive in the hiring of people with disabilities.

"The Postal Service is committed to fostering a business culture that provides an inclusive work environment for all employees," says Susan M. LaChance, USPS vice president, employee development and diversity. "The diversity of employees – their backgrounds, education, perspectives, talents, and skills – plays an integral role in achieving this goal."

The Postal Service has programs designed to ensure that all employees have an equal opportunity to compete in every aspect of employment. *Careers & the disABLED* magazine highlighted one in particular, Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) and Video Relay Service (VRS). These video interpreting services enable employees who are deaf or hard-of-hearing to communicate with supervisors, co-workers and others in real time as an alternative to on-site interpreters, text-based telephone systems and other accommodations. The VRI and VRS systems are now available to more than 1,100 deaf and hard-of-hearing postal employees.

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An independent federal agency, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that visits 146 million homes and businesses, six days a week. It has 37,000 retail locations and relies on the sale of postage, products, and services to cover its operating expenses. The Postal Service has annual revenues of \$73 billion and delivers nearly half the world's mail.

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