

(This is from the National Association of Postmasters of the United States)

Federal law regarding the post office closure process

The following are some of the more important aspects of the laws governing the closing or consolidation of post offices:

1. A decision to discontinue or suspend services of a post office must address each of the following matters:

- (a) responsiveness to community postal needs;
- (b) effect on the community;
- (c) effect on employees;
- (d) an analysis of the economic savings to the Postal Service;
- (e) other factors; and
- (f) a summary that explains why the proposed action is necessary.

2. The time frame calls for a 60-day period for public comments after the release of the proposal to close. After comments are received and the Postal Service decides to proceed, the proposal is sent through channels to Postal Headquarters.

If the closing or suspension is approved at Headquarters, the district manager will post such final notice in the affected post office.

No office can be closed sooner than 60 days after this posting. The law then provides a very important 30 days for appeals by the customers to the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC). The PRC then has 120 days for review.