

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 25, 2026

The Honorable David Steiner
United States Postmaster General
USPS Headquarters
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

RE: Extension of Mail Forwarding for Wildfire Disaster Victims

Dear Postmaster General Steiner,

We write to you as Members of Congress representing communities devastated by the January 2025 Palisades and Eaton wildfires, including the towns of the Pacific Palisades, Altadena, and Malibu. These fires destroyed more than 16,000 structures, displaced tens of thousands of families, and killed 31 people.¹ The neighborhoods of these communities have been permanently scarred, and the road to recovery will take years.

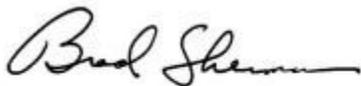
In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, many of our displaced constituents took advantage of the United States Postal Service's (USPS) Standard Mail Forwarding service, which is free of charge for a period of twelve months.² USPS mail forwarding provides critical stability for displaced fire victims during an extraordinarily disruptive time for the community, ensuring that families continue to receive essential correspondence during the recovery process.

More than a year has now passed since the Palisades and Eaton fires were extinguished, but wildfire survivors continue to navigate complex rebuilding and recovery challenges while continuing to sustain enormous financial losses.

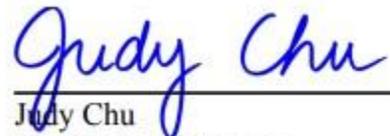
Many wildfire survivors have now reached the expiration of the twelve-month period where the Standard Mail Forwarding service is free of charge. We therefore respectfully urge the USPS to grant an additional eighteen-month extension of free mail forwarding for individuals and businesses displaced by the 2025 Palisades and Eaton fires. Extending this support would provide meaningful relief for these communities at a time when stability and continuity remain critically important. The cost of such an extension would be modest compared to the tangible benefit it would provide to communities still working to recover.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your prompt response to ensure that wildfire survivors receive the support they need during this extended recovery period.

Sincerely,



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress

¹ CALFIRE "Palisades Fire" CALFIRE. Retrieved February 12, 2026. <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2025/1/7/palisades-fire>
CALFIRE "Eaton Fire" CALFIRE. Retrieved February 12, 2026.
<https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2025/1/7/eaton-fire>

² USPS "Standard Forward Mail & Change of Address" USPS. Retrieved February 12, 2026.
<https://www.usps.com/manage/forward.htm>