

Date of Posting: 09/20/2011

Date of Removal: 11/21/2011

PROPOSAL TO CLOSE
THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, VA STATION
AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE
SERVICE BY CITY DELIVERY

DOCKET NUMBER 1384532 - 22304

I. RESPONSIVENESS TO COMMUNITY POSTAL NEEDS

The Postal Service is proposing to close the Theological Seminary, VA Station and provide delivery and retail services by city delivery under the administrative responsibility of the Trade Center Station, located three miles away.

The office is being studied for possible closing or consolidation due to the following reasons; There are a number of alternate sites within a short radius of this office that can provide the sale of stamps and the mailing of most package items.

The Post Office facility had severe building deficiencies that included: This facility is located on the campus of Theological Seminary. We do not pay for any repairs to this facility. It does not have a security system and the facility can only accommodate 1 working clerk. The doors are old and the locks are basic. It was left open to accommodate the staff and residents of Seminary for mail delivery and service. The Theological Seminary Station provides retail service from 0900 to 1300 - 1330 to 1500 Monday through Friday and 900 to 1300 on Saturday. Over the past several years there has been a decline in the amount of walk in revenue generated. The revenue trend is as follows: FY 07 \$ 268,723, FY 08 \$ 281,004, FY 09 \$ 288,869 and FY 10 \$ 259,801.

On October 05, 2011, representatives from the Postal Service will be available at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes Upper School Campus, Dining Hall, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria VA 22304 from 1900 to 2100 to answer questions and provide information to customers.

On or about September 04, 2011, questionnaires were distributed to customers of the Theological Seminary Station. Questionnaires were also available over the counter for retail customers at the Theological Seminary Station.

If this proposal is implemented, delivery and retail services will be provided by the Trade Center Station, an EAS-21 level office. Window service hours at the Trade Center Station are from 900 to 1700, Monday through Friday, and 900 to 1400 on Saturday.

Retail service is also available at the Parkfairfax Station an EAS-20 level office, located one miles away. Window service hours at Parkfairfax Station are from 900 to 1700, Monday through Friday and 900 to 1300 on Saturday. There are post office boxes available for rent.

Some advantages of the proposal are:

1. The rural and contract carriers may provide retail services, alleviating the need to go to the post office. Stamps by Mail order forms are provided for customer convenience.
2. Customers opting for carrier service will have 24-hour access to their mail.
3. Savings for the Postal Service contribute in the long run to stable postage rates and savings for customers.
4. CBUs can offer the security of individually locked mail compartments. Parcel lockers provide convenient parcel delivery for customers.
5. Customers opting for carrier service will not have to pay post office box fees.
6. Saves time and energy for customers who drive to the post office to pick up mail.

Some disadvantages of the proposal are:

1. The loss of a retail outlet and a manager position in the community. Retail services may be provided by the rural or contract delivery carrier.
2. Meeting the rural or contract delivery carrier at the box to transact business. However, it is not necessary to be present to conduct most Postal Service transactions.
3. A change in the mailing address. The community name will continue to be used in the new address. A carrier route address will be assigned.

Taking all available information into consideration, the Postal Service concludes this proposal will provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal services to the community.

II. EFFECT ON COMMUNITY

Theological Seminary is an incorporated community located in Alexandria City County. The community is administered politically by City of Alexandria. Police protection is provided by the City of Alexandria. Fire protection is provided by the City of Alexandria. The community is comprised of most customers to this facility are residents or employees of the Theological Seminary school. There are 2 larger postal facilities located within 1.5-3 mile radius (north and south) of this facility, that handles any big business activities within this community and those who commute to work at nearby communities and may work in local businesses.

Businesses and organizations include: See attached, Theological Seminary and their affiliated organizations on campus are the only organizations serviced. Residents may travel to nearby communities for other supplies and services.

Nonpostal services provided at the Theological Seminary Station will be available at the Trade Center Station. Government forms normally provided by the Post Office will also be available at the Trade Center Station or by contacting your local government agency.

This Theological Seminary Station is listed as a historic landmark. The community name will be maintained for customer addressing, and the Zip Code is not expected to change.

Based on the information obtained in the course of this discontinuance study, the Postal Service concludes this proposal will not adversely affect the community and every effort will be made to maintain the identity.

III. EFFECT ON EMPLOYEES

Additionally there are 1 craft employees assigned to this unit. These employees will be relocated per the National Labor Agreements.

IV. ECONOMIC SAVINGS

The Postal Service estimates a ten year savings of \$ 654,123 with a breakdown as follows:

Building Maintenance	\$ 0
Utilities	\$ 0
Transportation	\$ 0
EAS Craft & Labor	\$ 831,442
Contracts	\$ 0
Rent	\$ 0
Relocation One-Time Cost	\$ 0
Total Ten Year Savings	\$ 654,123

V. OTHER FACTORS

The Postal Service has identified no other factors for consideration.

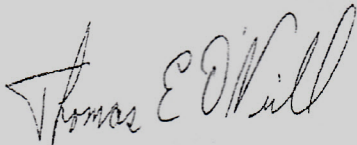
VI. SUMMARY

The Postal Service is proposing to close the Theological Seminary, VA Station and provide delivery and retail services by city delivery under the administrative responsibility of the Trade Center Station, located three miles away.

The Theological Seminary Station provided delivery and retail service to no PO Box or general delivery customers and three delivery route customers.

There will no longer be a retail outlet in the community. However, delivery and retail services may be available from a rural or contract delivery carrier, which could alleviate the need to travel to a Post Office for service. The Postal Service will save an estimated \$ 654,123 over the next ten years. A disadvantage to some may be in meeting the rural or contract delivery carrier to transact business. However, it is not necessary to be present to conduct most Postal Service transactions with rural or contract delivery carrier.

Taking all available information into consideration, the Postal Service has determined that the advantages outweigh the disadvantages and this proposal is warranted.



THOMAS O'NEILL
Postmaster

09/20/2011 Date