



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Solicitor General

Washington, D.C. 20530

September 6, 2026

Honorable Scott S. Harris
Clerk
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: United States Postal Service v. California, No. 26A297

Dear Mr. Harris:

On Thursday, September 3, 2026, the federal government filed in the above-captioned case an application for a stay of an order issued on August 27, 2026, by the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. Labeled as a 14-day temporary restraining order, but effectively functioning as a preliminary injunction, that order barred the implementation or enforcement of several sections of a Postal Service rule regarding the mailing of federal-election ballots.

On Friday, September 4, 2026, the district court formally issued a preliminary injunction that was substantively identical to its August 27 order, which it purported to dissolve. The United States appealed that injunction the same evening, and it filed a motion the next day in the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit to stay the new order pending appeal. Earlier today, in an abundance of caution, the United States filed in this Court a new application for a stay of the renewed preliminary injunction. In light of those developments, and to simplify proceedings, the United States withdraws its September 3 stay application in the above-captioned case.

Sincerely,

D. John Sauer
Solicitor General

cc: See Attached Service List

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