Mail Theft Prevention Tips

Mail theft can occur anywhere and with any type of mailbox, but there are steps the public can take to help protect themselves from this crime. Theft often takes place under cover of darkness or in the early morning hours, when few witnesses may be around.

- Collect your mail from your mailbox every day as soon as possible after it is delivered. Do not allow mail to accumulate, even in a locked mailbox.

- Deposit outgoing mail into blue collection boxes before the final pick up of the same day of deposit. Check pick up schedule posted on the box to ensure your mail will not sit in the box overnight or over the weekend.

- When expecting packages to be delivered, monitor tracking at www.usps.com so you know when to expect your shipment. A new U.S. Postal Service feature provides email and text alerts to notify customers of package status and delivery — sign up at www.myusps.com.

- Be alert and immediately report any suspicious or criminal activity to local police.

Report Theft, Fraud and Vandalism

- To report mail theft, vandalism, identity theft or fraud involving the U.S. Mail, contact the U.S. Postal Inspection Service at **1-877-876-2455**.

- To report mail theft or other crimes involving the U.S. Mail online, visit the U.S Postal Inspection Service website at: https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov (Select "contact us" and then "file a complaint." Under "Inquiry Type," select "Problem." Under "Customer Service," select "Support," and then "Vandalism/Theft Problem." Select "continue" and provide requested information.)

- To reach the U.S. Postal Service Customer Care Center, call **1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777)**.