

Rally in Opposition to President Trump's Efforts to Disrupt and Discredit Mail-in Voting

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host of rally in front of the Princeton Post Office on Roszel Road, 11 AM, 22 August 2020)

Opening statement

Welcome to this rally in support of our Post Office and our democracy. Thank you for turning out!

I'm Frank von Hippel, I'm 82. I've been to a lot of demonstrations but this is the first I've co-organized.

So you know things are desperate.

I'm a nuclear physicist and I work at Princeton University on nuclear arms policy. But I can't make a difference if we don't have a functioning democracy.

That includes a post office that is able to deliver our ballots on time.

Nationwide, there are about 800 "Save the Post Office" rallies this morning. There are about 20 in New Jersey, including *two* in Princeton. There are similar numbers in Texas; Colorado; Florida, North Carolina and about 100 in California.

These rallies give notice that we are alert to what is happening in our country.

They let our elected officials and other people inside our government, including the post office, know that we will support them if they defend our democracy.

We are making clear to each other that we are not alone. We will support each other.

This rally was organized in collaboration with Princeton's Coalition for Peace Action. The Coalition works on nuclear arms and gun control, but it too needs democracy to operate and the post office is part of the infrastructure of our democracy.

Closing statement

I don't think this will be the last time you will need to come out.

The election is only ten weeks away, but it is going to be a very long ten weeks and things may get hairy afterwards.

So, this is a start, a solidarity meeting – solidarity with each other and in support of our two-century-old democracy.

Our demand today is that the post office continues to do its job and deliver our ballots quickly to us and then back to our county governments for counting.

We also want it to continue to do its job in delivering our medicines and checks and other essentials of life.