

USPS: There are rules about workplace romances

September 29, 2026 by [21cpw](#)



The Postal Service is reminding employees and contractors of the guidelines associated with romance in the workplace.

A direct or indirect reporting relationship between two employees who are dating raises ethical concerns because employees should not use their positions for private

gain.

Higher-level employees should not make decisions that financially benefit a lower-level romantic partner. This includes approving promotions, detail assignments, overtime and leave requests, as well as weighing in on disciplinary cases.

Mixing romance with direct or indirect reporting structures can create perceptions of unfair treatment, and it can negatively affect the morale of colleagues who do not have a similar relationship with the higher-level employee. Additionally, it can lead to allegations of sexual harassment or discrimination.

Employees should notify their local management or Human Resources if they are currently dating or prospectively going to date someone in their direct or indirect line of reporting. Specifically, field employees should contact the Field Human Resources manager, while headquarters and headquarters-affiliated employees should contact the Human Resources manager.

If managers discover such a romantic relationship, they should consult with the appropriate Human Resources officials.

Employees with questions should call the USPS Ethics Office at 202-268-6346.