

## MEMORANDUM

October 13, 2001

TO: Governor  
FROM: John  
RE: Mail handling  
CC: Renick

This morning, I checked the U. S. Postal Service's website for information on handling mail under the current conditions. As you will note in the attached information from the site, there have been no confirmed incidents involving anthrax being sent by mail.

The site does provide information on what should be done if an anthrax threat is received by mail. It does *not* give information on how to handle mail outside of the threat of a biological or chemical threat.

I spoke with Bill and Armerita last night. I believe that until we have all the information pulled together, we shouldn't move forward. We need to know exactly what we're talking about regarding the mail, and even the Postal Service doesn't have information on how to handle the regular flow of mail. It is my opinion that we should research this more in cooperation with the Department of Health, and then distribute some information and/or guidelines to state employees via e-mail. Any hastily called press conference, without full knowledge of what we're talking about, could have the opposite of the intended effect, which is to provide direction and assurance about handling mail and potential threats.