

BEFORE THE
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2006

Docket No. R2006-1

RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORIES OF DAVID B. POPKIN
(DBP/USPS-483-487)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its responses to the following interrogatories of David B. Popkin, filed on August 11, 2006: DBP/USPS-483-487.

Each interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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August 24, 2006

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-483 Please refer to footnote 2 on page 6 of the Testimony USPS-T-38 revised on August 10, 2006. Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that under the revised proposed regulations for single-piece/nonpresort Bound Printed Matter [BPM] a mailer who is aware of the service will be able to prepare and deposit the mail in all of the same ways and conditions that it can be done under the present regulations.

RESPONSE:

Confirmed with respect to preparation and deposit of mail, although the service will not be offered at retail window.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-484 Please refer to footnote 2 on page 6 of the Testimony USPS-T-38 revised on August 10, 2006. Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that under the revised proposed regulations for single-piece/nonpresort Bound Printed Matter [BPM] a mailer who is aware of the service will be able to obtain all of the extra/ancillary services that are available presently and be able to prepare and deposit the mail in all of the same ways and conditions that it can be done under the present regulations.

RESPONSE:

Confirmed with respect to preparation and deposit of mail, although the service will not be offered at retail window. As stated: "For those extra services that can be effectuated only at the window, it is the Postal Service's intention to establish procedures to accommodate customers who seek to add those services." The procedures have not yet been established. Please see the response to DBP/USPS-485.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-485 Please refer to footnote 2 on page 6 of the Testimony USPS-T-38 revised on August 10, 2006. Please advise what assistance a mailer who is aware of the existence of the single-piece/nonpresort Bound Printed Matter [BPM] service will be able to obtain assistance from a retail service window as follows:

- [a] To determine the weight of the mailpiece.
- [b] To determine the zone for the mailing.
- [c] To determine whether the mailpiece is a flat or a parcel.
- [d] To determine the availability and cost[s] of any of the various ancillary services.
- [e] To determine the postage that would be required for a mailpiece having all of the characteristics and ancillary services as noted above.
- [f] To determine whether the contents of the mailpiece would qualify for mailing as BPM.
- [g] To obtain a PVI strip or other Postal Service issued postage validation to cover the required postage.
- [h] To purchase the necessary adhesive postage stamps to cover the required postage.
- [i] To provide any necessary markings or validations, such as a \$0.00 PVI strip, to ensure that the mailpiece will have the same level of mailpiece security for mailpieces that are over 16 ounces in weight that a mailpiece with a PVI strip paying the full postage would have.
- [j] To determine the service standards for the mailpiece.
- [k] Please explain and provide the rationale for any negative responses to subparts a through j above.
- [l] For each of the services listed in subparts a through j above, please provide the source of the information or action. For example, the weight of the mailpiece would be determined on the POS terminal scale.

RESPONSE:

This information is not available. The Postal Service is just beginning the process of examining how to implement the changes necessary to effectuate its plans reflected in revised footnote 2.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-486 Please refer to footnote 2 on page 6 of the Testimony USPS-T-38 revised on August 10, 2006.

[a] Please provide a complete listing of the assistance that a mailer [who is unaware of the BPM service] who has a mailpiece could receive information or assistance at the present time which would lead the customer to choose BPM for the mailpiece. Include assistance that could be provided at a retail window, from the 1-800 number, from a delivery carrier, etc.

[b] Please indicate which, if any, of the information or assistance items shown in response to subpart a above will no longer be available if the proposed regulations are implemented.

[c] Please provide the rationale for each of the items that will no longer be provided if the proposed regulations are implemented.

RESPONSE:

This information is not available. The Postal Service is just beginning the process of examining how to implement the changes necessary to effectuate its plans reflected in revised footnote 2.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-487 Please refer to footnote 2 on page 6 of the Testimony USPS-T-38 revised on August 10, 2006.

[a] Please provide the POS terminal screens and verbal exchanges that would match an exchange between a customer presenting a mailpiece [under the present regulations] and ultimately ending up choosing BPM.

[b] Please provide the POS terminal screens that would be utilized after the proposed regulations are implemented.

RESPONSE:

Such a comparison is not available. The Postal Service is just beginning the process of examining how to implement the changes necessary to effectuate its plans reflected in revised footnote 2.