

RECEIVED

ORDER NO. 1300

Aug 18 10 57 AM '00

POSTAL SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Edward J. Gleiman, Chairman;
George A. Omas, Vice Chairman;
Dana B. Covington; Ruth Y. Goldway;
and W.H. "Trey" LeBlanc III

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R2000-1

ORDER REQUESTING THE DESIGNATION OF A WITNESS
TO DISCUSS AN INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE

(Issued August 18, 2000)

Postal Service witness Patelunas (USPS-ST-44) presented the Postal Service rollforward of actual FY 1999 costs requested in Commission Order No. 1294. During his appearance, he was questioned from the bench concerning, *inter alia*, the reasons for the increases in unit costs shown for Standard B Special Mail. The Postal Service agreed to provide written responses to these questions.

The Service provided its responses on August 7, 2000. The Commission intends to designate these responses for incorporation into the evidentiary record. However, these answers do not fully explain the causes of change of Standard B Special Mail costs, between FY 98 and FY 99. The record in this case will benefit from further discussion of that issue by a knowledgeable witness prepared to respond to germane questions.

The Postal Service is requested to identify a witness capable of responding to questions on Standard B Special Mail processing costs. If the designated witness is

already scheduled to appear to sponsor rebuttal testimony, questions on this topic can be posed during that scheduled appearance. If an additional witness is necessary, the appearance of that witness will be scheduled during the hearings scheduled August 22-September 1, 2000.

It is ordered:

The Postal Service is to identify, on or before August 22, 2000, a witness to sponsor the Postal Service written responses of August 7, 2000 to the questions addressed to witness Patelunas at Tr. 35/16833.

By the Commission.

(SEAL)

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Margaret P. Crenshaw". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Margaret P. Crenshaw
Secretary