

PRESIDING OFFICER'S  
RULING NO. MC2004-3/6

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

Rate and Service Changes To Implement  
Functionally Equivalent Negotiated Service  
Agreement With Bank One Corporation

Docket No. MC2004-3

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING  
GRANTING JOINT MOTION FOR SCHEDULING ADJUSTMENT

(Issued October 1, 2004)

Five participants have jointly moved for a five-day extension of the briefing schedule and establishment of related deadlines. This would make October 6 the date for filing initial briefs and statements of opposition to the modified settlement; October 13 the deadline for reply briefs; and October 8 as the deadline for filing signature pages. Joint Motion of the United States Postal Service, Bank One Corporation, the Office of Consumer Advocate, Valpak Direct Marketing Systems, Inc., and Valpak Dealers' Association, Inc. to Adjust Procedural Schedule, September 30, 2004 (Joint Motion).

The Joint Motion cites ongoing efforts to file a modified stipulation and agreement by October 1, 2004 as well as an intention to inform the Commission, by October 4, should it become apparent that settlement is not possible. Joint Motion at 1.

The Joint Motion also affirmatively notes the movants' consent to waiver of Rule 196(d)(1), which concerns the deadline for issuance of a Commission decision, to the extent necessary to accommodate the proposed extension. Id. at 2.

RULING

1. The Joint Motion of the United States Postal Service, Bank One Corporation, the Office of Consumer Advocate, Valpak Direct Marketing Systems, Inc., and Valpak Dealers' Association, Inc. to Adjust Procedural Schedule, September 30, 2004, is granted.
2. The revised procedural schedule establishes:
  - a. October 4 as the deadline for a statement, if needed, concerning settlement status;
  - b. October 6 as the deadline for filing initial briefs and oppositions to the modified stipulation and agreement;
  - c. October 8 as the deadline for filing signature pages in support of the modified stipulation and agreement; and
  - d. October 13 as the deadline for filing reply briefs.

George Omas  
Presiding Officer