

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

August 4, 1999

Mary Elcano, General Counsel
United States Postal Service
Room 6004
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, D.C. 20260-1100

Dear Ms. Elcano,

On June 30, 1999 the Postal Rate Commission sent to Congress a report on the cost, revenues, and volumes of international mail handled by the United States Postal Service during fiscal year 1998 as required by 39 U.S.C. § 3663(a). The Postal Service assisted the Commission by providing data and information on international mail as required by 5 U.S.C. § 3663(b). The Service has indicated that it considers much of the information provided to the Commission to be of a commercial nature, including trade secrets, which under good business practices it would not publicly disclose.

Piper & Marbury L.L.P. has requested a copy of this report and a copy of all data and information supplied by the Postal Service which the Commission used or referred to in preparing this report. The Postal Service has already identified the specific material that it believes must be redacted from any copy of the Commission's report supplied pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act in a letter dated July 21, 1999. Please review the information the Postal Service provided to the Commission in Docket No. IM99-1 and provide to this office, by close of business August 11, 1999, a written statement indicating the information that the Postal Service believes must be redacted from any materials provided in response to the request for data and information supplied by the Postal Service.

Please include with this statement a full justification for your position, including appropriate analysis of applicable federal law.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Margaret P. Crenshaw
Secretary