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POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES
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**Before the
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001**

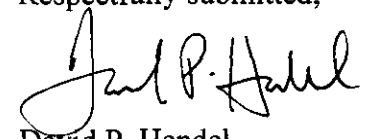
Postal Rate and Fee Changes, 2000

Docket No. R2000-1

**FIRST INTERROGATORIES OF STAMPS.COM
TO WITNESS ROBINSON (STAMPS.COM/USPS T-34-1)**

Pursuant to sections 25 and 26 of the Rules of Practice, Stamps.com directs this interrogatory and document production request to USPS witness Maura Robinson. If the witness is unable to respond to any portion of these request, please provide an appropriate USPS witness capable of providing an answer.

Respectfully submitted,



David P. Hendel
Wickwire Gavin, PC
8100 Boone Blvd., Suite 700
Vienna, VA 22182-2642
Tel.: (703) 790-8750
Fax.: (703) 448-1767 or 448-1801
E-mail: Dhendel@wickwire.com

Counsel for Stamps.com

Dated: March 3, 2000

**FIRST INTERROGATORIES OF STAMPS.COM TO
USPS WITNESS ROBINSON**

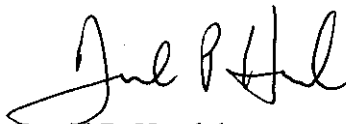
STAMPS.COM/USPS T-34-1

Please refer to the attached Postal News Release of February 11, 2000, (labeled Attachment to STAMPS.COM/USPS-T34-1) on the Postal Service's expansion of its pilot program with Mail Boxes Etc. (MBE). According to the news release, 700 MBE locations will be added to the existing 250 locations, which "have offered a variety of postal products and services such as stamps... Priority Mail and Express Mail."

- (a) Please produce a copy of the contract and/or agreements with MBE related to the pilot program.
- (b) For each year remaining in the pilot program, please provide the amount that the Postal Service expects to pay MBE under the contract and /or agreements in total, and individually, for stamps, Priority Mail and Express Mail.
- (c) Do payments to MBE vary with the number or dollar amount of stamp sales by MBE? If so, please provide the procedures for calculating the payments.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this 3 day of March 2000, served the foregoing document in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice.


David P. Hendel



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 11, 2000

Release No. 13

**U.S. POSTAL SERVICE EXPANDS PILOT PROGRAM OFFERING
POSTAL PRODUCTS, SERVICES AT MAIL BOXES ETC.**

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Continuing its efforts to improve customer convenience, the U. S. Postal Service later this month will expand a pilot program with Mail Boxes Etc. (MBE) that increases customer access to Postal Service products and services.

For more than a year, 250 MBE franchises in and around Boston, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, Honolulu, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, Orlando, San Francisco and Washington, DC, have offered a variety of postal products and services such as stamps, certified mail, insurance, Priority Mail and Express Mail.

Soon, some 700 additional MBE locations — primarily in the Southeast and Southwest regions of the United States — will begin to join the network of franchises already offering Postal Service products and services. This expansion will extend to major metropolitan area MBE franchises within the states of Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas.

"In terms of customer convenience and product access, the first phase of this program achieved its goal," according to John Kelly, president, Expedited/Package Services (E/PS), "but it has also helped us focus on areas of improvement and opportunity which we think can be realized through this expansion."

In particular, Kelly pointed to technological improvements which can be integrated into the deposit and payment aspects of the program, and one which would improve the stamp-distribution process.

The USPS/MBE pilot program, initially launched in the fall of 1998, is expected to continue for up to three years.

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