

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

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2000

Docket No. R2000-1

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF
THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE
(OCA/USPS-52)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its response to the following interrogatory of the Office of the Consumer Advocate: OCA/USPS-52, filed on January 28, 2000.

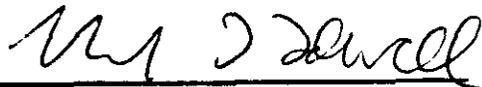
The interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking



Michael T. Tidwell

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-2998 Fax -5402
March 20, 2000

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

OCA/USPS-52.

For the period 1995 to the present, please identify any instance in which the Postal Service provided stamps to individuals without charge (such as in connection with completion of a questionnaire, a courtesy program, as a promotion, etc.). Do not include equal value exchanges of stamps. For each such instance, please explain the terms under which stamps were provided, including the number and value of stamps provided, and the location or area involved. Provide all related documents.

RESPONSE:

In 1999, the Postal Service contracted with National Analysts, Inc. to conduct a survey of customers who had used an Automated Postal Center. The burden on each survey respondent was expected to be significant, approximately 20 minutes. To provide an incentive for respondents to participate in such lengthy interviews, National Analysts purchased \$9603.00 in postage stamps, so that each participating survey respondent could be given \$9.90 worth of postage stamps for their participation in the survey. A copy of the stamp purchase invoice is attached.

Otherwise, local postal customer service managers have been known to initiate retail service improvement programs, as a part of which they would distribute a basic First-Class Mail rate postage stamp to a customer who waited in line for retail window service more than five minutes. Stamps were purchased out of local budgets for such purposes. There were occasional reports of such local initiatives in the late 1980's and early 1990's. No records relating to them have been located. Nor have any records been located which relate to any such activity since then.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
STAMP FULFILLMENT SERVICES
KANSAS CITY MO

OCTOBER 26, 1999

SHIP TO:
SCHLESINGER ASSOCIATES SOUTH
ATTN: STEVE CURTIS
2290 LUCIEN WAY STE 180
MAITLAND FL 32751

NATIONAL ANALYST INC
1700 MARKET ST FL 17
PHILADELPHIA PA 19103-3913

ORDER NUMBER: 14982265 -001

ITEM	AFF	ITEM DESCRIPTION	BCK ORD	QTY	AMOUNT	CODE
554540		\$4.95 CELEBRATE THE CENTURY 1950		970	\$4,801.50	
554640		\$4.95 CELEBRATE THE CENTURY 1960		970	\$4,801.50	

ORDER AMOUNT:	\$9,603.00
POSTAGE & HANDLING	\$ 0.00
FOREIGN HANDLING	\$
EXPRESS MAIL FEE	\$
EXPRESS MAIL PAID BY CUST CORP ACCOUNT	

TOTAL AMOUNT:	\$ 9,603.00
MONEY FROM ID	\$
CREDIT CARD CHARGED	\$

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PHILATELIC ORDER

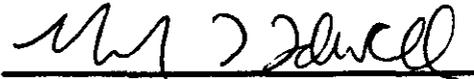
EM3166553130US

EM3166553000US

EM3166553270US

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the Rules of Practice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael T. Tidwell", written over a horizontal line.

Michael T. Tidwell

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