

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

OBJECTION OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO CRPA INTERROGATORY T32-10(c)
(April 3, 2000)

The United States Postal Service hereby files this partial objection to the following interrogatory directed by Coalition of Religious Press Associations to witness Mayes: CRPA/USPS-T32-10(c), filed on March 23, 2000.

The interrogatory asks witness Mayes to confirm whether the Postal Service or any other party has provided to Congress or any Congressional staff employee "legislative language to effect the reclassification of Periodicals Mail, either as separate legislation or as an amendment to . . . any . . . bill that has been or is before the 106th Congress."¹ The interrogatory then asks for a copy of all drafts of such legislation.

The Postal Service objects to the responding to the second portion of the interrogatory. The Postal Service should not be required to disclose all communications it has had with members of Congress or their staffs concerning RFRA reform. Such communications are privileged, and their public disclosure could "chill" the ability of postal management and members of Congress or their staffs to candidly exchange ideas concerning the content of legislative language to be proposed for the purpose of amending the RFRA.

Nor should the Postal Service be required to disclose any drafts of legislative language which may have been submitted to Congress or Congressional staff persons

¹ The Postal Service interprets the "reclassification of Periodicals" as pertaining to the Revenue Foregone Reform Act amendments referenced in the testimony of witness Mayes (USPS-T-32).

for consideration by any parties other than the Postal Service. Such disclosure could "chill" the ability of private parties to candidly and confidentially exchange ideas regarding public policy issues with members of Congress or their staffs.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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April 3, 2000

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.



Michael T. Tidwell

April 3, 2000