

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 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON
(DFC/USPS—77(C) & (D))**

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its response to the following interrogatories of Douglas F. Carlson: DFC/USPS—77(c-d), filed on March 23.

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


Anthony Alverno
Attorney

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-2997; Fax -6187
April 19, 2000

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Please refer to the response to OCA/USPS—62.

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- c. Please confirm that the artistic design will be the key to determining the postage value associated with new non-denominated basic rate stamps issued for Docket No. R2000-1. If you do not confirm, please explain.
- d. Please discuss any studies or other information that the Postal Service has to indicate that the absence of an alpha designation or rate value on postage stamps may or may not cause customer confusion in future years as customers seek to determine the value of non-denominated stamps that they have in their possession.

* * * * *

RESPONSE:

(c) Not confirmed. Although the artistic design will be a form of identification, after rate implementation, the Postal Service intends to issue stamps bearing a numerical denomination and the same design as the non-denominated stamps, so this latter characteristic will also serve as an identifying mechanism. It is these two characteristics in combination that will serve as the "key" to determining postage value once the denominated stamps are issued.

(d) The Postal Service previously issued stamps bearing no denomination in connection with Docket No. R94-1. The stamps that were issued were the Cherub Love stamps with a value of 32-cents. Shortly afterwards, the stamps with the same design were issued with a 32-cent numerical denomination. This was effective, with only minor negative feedback from customers.

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.


Anthony Alverno

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