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

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POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2000

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION Docket NO.FF 2000 N SECRETARY

RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORIES OF DAVID B. POPKIN (DBP/USPS-104)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides the responses to the following interrogatories of David B. Popkin: DBP/USPS–104.

Each 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

Mark W. Ro

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, SW Washington, DC 20260-1137 (202) 268-3231; Fax -6187 April 27, 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.

Mark W. Ro

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, SW Washington, DC 20260-1137 April 27, 2000

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-104:

Most of the rates charged by the Postal Service are weight related. In order to mail the article it may be necessary to affix various labels or other material to the article as well as affix stamps to cover the cost. Please advise whether the following items are included in the weight of the article in determining the proper postage [for example, a Return Receipt card weighs approximately 0.12 ounces]. [a] If I affix one to a 0.95 ounce letter do I pay the one ounce rate because of the original weight of the letter of 0.95 ounces or am I required to now pay the two ounce rate because of the new total weight of 1.07 ounces? [b] The postage stamp or stamps that are affixed to pay the postage. [c] A Certified Mail sticker. [d] A Delivery Confirmation sticker [e] An Insured Mail sticker [f] A Registered Mail sticker [g] An Express Mail address label [h] A C.O.D. Mail label [ii] If your response to subparts c, d, e, g, and/or h is yes, am I permitted to remove the mailing receipt part prior to the weight being determined?

RESPONSE:

Whether or not the various labels and or stamps are included in the weight of the article for purposes of calculation of postage depends upon the specific circumstances. If stamps and labels are already affixed to the article before weighing, they will be included in the weight of the article. If, however, the article is presented to the clerk without (1) any affixed labels or (2) affixed stamps, the weight will not include items (1) and (2) in determining the applicable postage. Once an article is weighed by the clerk, labels or stamps affixed to the article by the acceptance clerk will not require a second weighing to determine postage.