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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 INTERROGATORIES OF DAVID B. POPKIN
(DBP/USPS-218 & 220)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its responses to the following interrogatories of David B. Popkin: DBP/USPS-218, and 220 filed on May 3, 2000. The interrogatories are stated verbatim and are followed by the responses.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.
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May 17, 2000

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

DBP/USPS-218: Please refer to the response to DBP/USPS-104. [a] Please read the last sentence of DMM Section S915.1.4 and then reanswer DBP/USPS-104. [b] Please confirm that once the postage has been determined based on the weight of the mail piece without the stamps or labels affixed and then the stamps and/or labels are affixed, it may not be possible for the Postal Service to determine that the article has the proper postage affixed.

I have reprinted DBP/USPS-104 for ease of reference:

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 [i] 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:

[a] In DMM S915.1.4: for computing postage, the weight of the return receipt is excluded from the weight of the mailpiece . They are not weighing the forms 3800 & 3811. See no. 6 of the clerks training procedures.

This is how they complete PS Form 3800:

1. Have customer complete the "Addressee" portion (top part)

2. Determine applicable postage

3. Write in the postage amount and certified fee

4. Affix amount of postage to mail piece that reflects the total postage and

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services fees

5.Round stamp the "postmark" portion

6.Affix the certified mail sticker portion to the front of the mailing

item above the delivery address and to the right of the return address.

7.Detach the top portion of form and give to customer

[b] Confirmed it may not be possible.

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DBP/USPS-220: Please refer to your response to DBP/USPS-172. [a] Your response to DBP/USPS-172 [a] keeps answering the question in reverse. My question is once a particular FIVE-digit ZIP Code is utilized for a one or more "No Office Point" address, is or will that same FIVE-digit ZIP Code be utilized for a NON-No Office Point address. The question does not, at least directly, relate to a change in status of a destination or to whether all of the No Office Points for Anchorage are in the 99695 ZIP Code. The question is attempting to determine is or will a given FIVE-digit ZIP Code be utilized for BOTH a No Office Point address and a NON-No Office Point. Examination of your attachment seems to indicate that it will, namely PO Box PML, Cold Bay AK 99571-8999 is a No Office Point and PO Box 1, Cold Bay AK 99571-0001 is a regular type of address - both of which use the same 5-digit ZIP Code 99571. Please clarify and explain. [b] Since this is an institutional interrogatory, please have the experts in Washington respond to DBP/USPS-172[i]

RESPONSE:

[a] Based upon the manner your question is stated, "Yes. A 5-Digit ZIP Code could contain both a No-office point and a regular post office." This situation exists for the majority of the no-office points outside of Ketchikan and Juneau. The following brief discussion should clarify this point.

Because "no-office points" are not postal facilities, they really do not exist beyond the delivery address that must be tied to a regular post office ZIP Code. The primary address choice for no-office point addressing is to use a phantom post office box number for the entire community at the post office that makes delivery. In your example, PO Box PML belongs to Port Moller which receives final dispatch through the Cold Bay Post Office, 99571. Therefore, all customers in Port Moller would receive mail addressed to:

John Doe
Port Moller
PO BOX PML
Cold Bay AK 99571

This format allows Cold Bay distribution employees to send PO BOX PML to Port

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Moller instead of placing the mail in the Cold Bay post office box section.

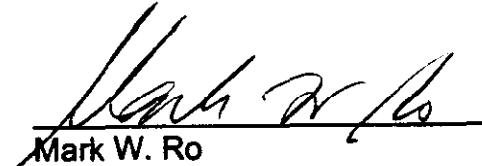
When the dispatch point is one of our larger sectional center facilities (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, etc.), all no-office points use one of the unique ZIP Codes that was explained earlier.

In summary, the host administrative post office will share its 5-Digit ZIP Code with any no-office point receiving final mail dispatch from its facility.

[b] Has already been responded to.

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.


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