BEFORE THE POSTAL RATE COMMISSION WASHINGTON DC 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2000)) Doc)	ket No. R2000-1

NOTICE OF
MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS OF AMERICA, INC.
ALLIANCE OF NONPROFIT MAILERS
AMERICAN BUSINESS MEDIA
COALITION OF RELIGIOUS PRESS ASSOCIATION
DOW JONES & CO., INC.
THE McGRAW-HILL COMPANIES, INC.
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
TIME WARNER INC.
CONCERNING ERRATA TO TESTIMONY
OF WITNESS COHEN (MPA-T-1) (ERRATUM)

(MAY 31, 2000)

Pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice, Magazine Publishers of America, et al., hereby provide notice of the filing of a second erratum to the testimony of witness Cohen (MPA-T-1). This erratum concerns Witness Cohen's testimony regarding transportation cost figures developed by Witness Nelson (MPA-T-3). The revisions to Witness Cohen's testimony reflect late changes made to Witness Nelson's testimony, which were made after Witness Cohen's testimony had been filed. The corrections are to transportation costs and to all cost figures that use or

incorporate transportation costs. The revisions can be found on page 4 (at Table 2), page 32 (at line 9), and page 34 (at Table 3). The revisions appear in **boldface type** in the attachment to this notice, for ease of reference. The attached corrected pages replace the original pages 4, 32 and 34, filed as part of MPA-T-1 on May 22, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice.

Anne R. Noble

Washington DC May 31, 2000 methodologies. This review continued in a cooperative manner after the field effort was completed. In this section, I review a number of methodological changes proposed by the Postal Service in its direct case that were encouraged by this cooperative effort. I also explain the need for further improvements in mail processing cost attribution and distribution methodologies based on operational considerations and propose appropriate interim solutions pending further data collection. My testimony supports and incorporates the distribution of mail processing costs to classes and subclasses presented by Time Warner witness Stralberg (TW-T-1) and discussed by witness Glick (MPA-T-2). Further, in this section I discuss the Postal Service's proposed city carrier street time attribution methodology and witnesses Crowder's (ADVO-T-1) and Hay's (MPA-T-4) analysis of the new method. As witnesses Crowder and Hay will describe in their testimonies, witness Raymond's carrier street time study is defective, and the Commission should not accept it. Finally, I discuss several methodological improvements MPA witness Nelson (MPA-T-3) makes to transportation costing methodology and adjustments to rural carrier costs presented by witness Glick. In total, the costing methodology changes I propose and advocate reduce Base Year Periodicals costs (without piggybacks) by \$293 million.

19	Table 2.	
20	Periodicals Cost Attribution	
21	and Distribution Improvements	
22	Without Piggybacks	
23	(in millions of dollars, BY)	

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Mail Processing	\$127
City Carriers	\$57
Rural Carriers	\$13
Purchased Transportation	\$96
Total	\$293

In Section IV, I estimate Test Year After Rates (TYAR) costs based upon the aforementioned cost reduction programs, the more accurate variability

the Postal Service's own description of highway transportation operating practices and, consequently, significantly overstates the true variability of these costs. Witness Nelson demonstrates that this incorrect model specification is a principal contributing factor to the rapid increase in the transportation costs attributed to periodicals in recent years.

Correcting witness Bradley's highway models leads to a significant decrease in the variability of these costs. The revised model is included in witness Nelson's testimony and leads to a decrease in Periodicals Base Year costs of \$88 million.

The Postal Service's Distribution Of Costs For Amtrak Roadrailers is Incorrect

There is a new type of transportation cost in this case, namely the use of "roadrailers" as part of the Amtrak rail service. Movement of mail by roadrailers is not part of the current TRACS sampling system, so the Postal Service has no data on the precise composition of mail moving by this mode of transportation.

To distribute these costs to classes and subclasses, the Postal Service uses the distribution key for the portion of Amtrak that is sampled by TRACS. However, as discussed by witness Nelson, roadrailer service is more likely to be analogous to inter-SCF highway transportation with respect to the types of movements for which it is used. Witness Nelson proposes to remove roadrailers costs from the pool of accrued Amtrak costs and distribute it to classes and subclasses using the inter-SCF distribution key. His proposal reduces Periodicals Base Year costs by \$3 million.

The Distribution of Costs for Empty Equipment Movements Via Rail Ignores the Use Of Rail To Transport Equipment Of All Types

As discussed by witness Nelson, the Postal Service transports empty equipment for many modes of transportation, including highway transportation, via rail. The method proposed by the Postal Service incorrectly distributes the costs of empty equipment shipments solely on the basis of volumes moving on freight rail and Amtrak. Witness Nelson corrects the distribution of these costs,

Table 3. TYAR Costs by Subclass (in Thousands of Dollars)

		USPS	MPA
Class	Subclass	Attributable Cost	Attributable Cost
First-Class	Letters & Parcels	\$13,437,357	<u>\$12,736,859</u>
First-Class	Presort Letters & Parcels	\$5,019,464	
First-Class	Private Postcards	\$539,919	
First-Class	Presort Private Postcards	\$168,958	
Priority Mail	All	\$3,064,062	
Express Mail	All	\$480,984	
Mailgrams	AII	\$1,000	
Periodicals	Within County	\$81,397	
Periodicals	Regular Rate	\$1,981,587	
Periodicals	Nonprofit	\$388,570	
Periodicals	Classroom	\$14,034	\$11,379
Standard (A)	Enhanced Carrier Route	\$2,471,864	\$2,129,116
Standard (A)	Regular	\$6,823,933	
Standard (A)	Nonprofit ECR	\$208,577	\$184,929
Standard (A)	Nonprofit Regular	\$1,320,611	\$1,191,723
Standard (B)	Parcels Zone Rate	\$1,052,158	
Standard (B)	Bound Printed Matter	\$479,204	
Standard (B)	Special Standard	\$301,195	
Standard (B)	Library Rate	\$47,444	\$36,609
Free Mail	All	\$40,348	
International Mail	All	\$1,429,916	
Special Services	All	\$1,539,113	\$1,456,111

2 V. RATE CONSIDERATIONS

A. Overall Rate increase

The Postal Service in this case has proposed a rate increase for periodicals that, by its own admission, is at least twice the overall average rate increase of 6.4 percent. As stated by witnesses Mayes and Taufique, the average rate increase proposed for outside county periodicals is 12.7 percent. USPS-T-32 at 32; USPS-T-38 at 6.

In fact, however, the situation faced by periodicals mailers is even worse than described in the Postal Service's direct case. The rate increase that outside county periodicals mailers are facing is, in fact, much higher than stated by the Postal Service, averaging 15 percent for Periodicals providing input to MPA and American Business Media. Attachment A contains a coded list of magazines responding to MPA's most recent postal survey and the rate increase each will