

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

MOTION OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
FOR EXTENSION OF DISCOVERY PERIOD FOR WITNESS CROWDER
AND FOR SCHEDULING OF WITNESSES CROWDER AND HAY
(June 20, 2000)

Pursuant to Presiding Officer's Ruling Nos. R2000-1/54 and R2000-1/73, the due date for intervenor testimony responding to those portions of the testimony of witnesses Baron and Raymond that rely on data collected by the ES project was extended to May 20, 2000, and later further extended to June 1, 2000. Although the Postal Service did not oppose the motions filed by the Magazine Publishers of America and Advo, Inc. which requested these extensions of time, the Postal Service did request that any such extension of the testimony filing date be accompanied by a corresponding extension of the discovery period on the delayed rebuttal testimony. The Postal Service also requested that such intervenor witnesses be scheduled to appear towards the end the time period set aside for oral cross-examination of intervenor witnesses. Response of United States Postal Service to MPA Motion to Reschedule the Appearances of Witnesses Baron and Raymond and for a Delay in Filing Rebuttal Testimony (April 27, 2000). Although Ruling 54 acknowledged the Postal Service's concerns, it deferred consideration of the Postal Service's scheduling requests. Ruling 54 at 3.

The Postal Service hereby renews its requests to extend the discovery period with respect to the testimony of MPA witness Crowder. The two extensions of the filing date for this testimony resulted in a significant shortening of the discovery period relating to it, allowing discovery only for slightly more that two weeks. Because of the

technical nature of this witness's testimony, an extension of the discovery period commensurate with the length of the delay in its filing is appropriate. The Postal Service therefore moves for an extension of the discovery period on this testimony until June 28, 2000.

The Postal Service also renews its request that the appearance of the witnesses whose testimony was delayed be scheduled towards the end of the hearings on the cases-in-chief of intervenors and the OCA. According to a notice filed by MPA (along with various other "Periodicals Intervenors") yesterday, witness Hay is available only between July 6-13, while witness Crowder is available for all hearing dates. Given these circumstances, the Postal Service requests that witness Hay be scheduled to appear as close as possible to July 13th, and that witness Crowder be scheduled to appear in the final week of hearings.

Prior to filing this motion, undersigned counsel consulted with counsel for witness Crowder, and was authorized to state that counsel for witness Crowder does not oppose extension of the discovery period for this witness until June 28, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:


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June 20, 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.


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