

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

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

EXPERIMENTAL PRESORTED PRIORITY
MAIL RATE CATEGORIES, 2001

Docket No. MC2001-1

RESPONSES OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
WITNESS LEVINE TO INTERROGATORY OF
THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE
(OCA/USPS-T2-6)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides the response witness Levine to the following interrogatory of the Office of the Consumer Advocate: OCA/USPS-T2-6 (filed on April 24, 2001).

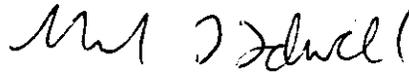
The interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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May 4, 2001

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OCA/USPS-T2-6.

OCA/USPS-T2-6. Please refer to your responses to OCA/USPS-T2-5.

- a. Please confirm that the only difference between "PS Form 3600-PMRX" and "PS Form 3600 PMPX" is that the former is for "Permit Imprint" presorted Priority Mail and the latter is for "Postage Affixed" presorted Priority Mail. If you do not confirm, please explain.
- b. On Form 3600-PMRX, in the box entitled "Processing Category (DMM C050)," are three check-off boxes for "Letters," "Flats" and "Parcels." If a mailer presents a mailing consisting of some combination of letters, flats and parcels, and checks one or more boxes, how will the Postal Service determine the number of letters, flats and parcels in the mailing? Please explain.
- c. On Form 3600-PMRX, there is a box displaying two check-off boxes entitled "Identical weight" and "Not identical weight." If a mailer presents a mailing consisting of pieces that are not of identical weight, and checks the appropriate box, how will the Postal Service determine the number of pieces by weight? Please explain.
- d. On Form 3600-PMRX, at page 2, are three tables for each proposed presort level (5-digit, 3-digit, and ADC), and a fourth table entitled "Residual/Single Piece." In the context of the proposed Priority Mail presort discount, please explain the meaning of, and purpose for, the table entitled "Residual/Single Piece."
- e. On Form 3600-PMRX, at page 2, for each of the proposed presort levels (5-digit, 3-digit, and ADC), how will the Postal Service determine the weight of the pieces by zone? Please explain.

Response:

- a. Confirmed.
- b. The current statement is a draft based on current knowledge of presort requirements. As the containerization requirements are determined, I expect that the statement will be adjusted to identify different shapes, as these may have different containerization requirements. The purpose of the postage

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statement, however, is to collect information for revenue purposes. If shape distinctions are not necessary, then this information may not be available on the final version of the form. If this information is determined to be necessary for the cost study in Phase 2 of the experiment, then additional data collection will be implemented to collect the information. The extent of additional data collection necessary will be determined using knowledge gained in Phase 1 of the experiment. I would expect that most mailers will, however, only present mail in one shape category.

- c. The purpose of the postage statement is to collect information related to revenue. The weight will be evident from the rate used on the second page of the form. If the mailing contains pieces of differing weights that are not reflected on this form (such as for unzoned rates), then the information will not be available from these forms. If this information is determined to be necessary for the cost study in Phase 2 of the experiment, then additional data collection will be implemented to collect the information. The extent of additional data collection necessary will be determined using knowledge gained in Phase 1 of the experiment. It may be possible to also use the PERMIT manifesting system to identify mailings of varying weight, although this will not apply to metered mail.

DECLARATION

I, Jonathan Levine, hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing Postal Rate Commission Docket No. MC2000-1 interrogatory answers are true to the best of my information, knowledge and belief.


Jonathan Levine

5-4-01
Date