

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON DC 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Docket No. C2001-1

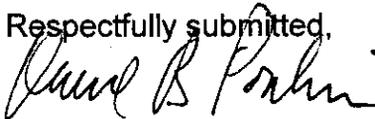
Complaint on Sunday  
and Holiday Collections

DAVID B. POPKIN MOTION TO COMPEL RESPONSES TO INTERROGATORIES TO  
THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE [DBP/USPS-1b, 2, 3, 8, and 9] AND  
POTENTIAL MOTION FOR LATE ACCEPTANCE

June 19, 2001

I move to compel responses to interrogatories submitted to the United States Postal Service that were objected to by them on June 12, 2001. This motion is being mailed on June 19, 2001, and should arrive at the Commission on June 21, 2001, under current USPS standards. In the event that they do not arrive by the deadline, I move for late acceptance.

Respectfully submitted,



June 19, 2001

David B. Popkin, PO Box 528, Englewood, NJ 07631-0528

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1. DBP/USPS-1b As noted in the interrogatory, there are two similar Exhibits, one in the DMM and the other in the POM. The Exhibit in the POM does not include definitions for Sunday and Holiday while the Exhibit in the DMM does. This interrogatory attempts to confirm that the data in these two Exhibits may be compared on an equal basis.

2. DBP/USPS-2 and 3 The Postal Service claims that the "exceptions" procedures contained in the POM and DMM have essentially been supplanted in recent years by Headquarters memos. The POM and DMM provide the levels of service that the Postal Service states it will comply with. Members of the public have a right to expect the Postal Service to comply with its own regulations. These regulations state that any exceptions to the levels of service that the public may expect in and around

holidays will be approved by a certain level of management. These interrogatories attempt to determine what exceptions, if any, have been approved in accordance with the Postal Service's own regulations. These interrogatories go to the very crux of this Complaint, in that the Postal Service has not been meeting its own regulations and the public has not been informed of the level of service that may be expected. With respect to the POM exceptions that may have been approved by the Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President ["COO-EVP"], the Postal Service stated in their April 4, 2000, response to R-2000-1 Interrogatory DBP/USPS-67c that no exceptions had been approved. Furthermore, they stated that the POM requirement for exceptions to be approved by the COO-EVP, rather than by the DMM mandated District Manager, was the controlling requirement. If there was no burden or claim of irrelevance in R2000-1 to provide this data in an Omnibus Rate Case, it certainly may not be claimed in the Complaint that directly relates to the level of service in and around holidays. There are only 80 plus Districts and it is important to determine if any District Manager has approved any exception to the DMM requirements.

3. DBP/USPS-8 and 9 These interrogatories relate to the elimination or reduction of retail window service on days shortly before or after a holiday as compared to a similar day of the week not related to the holiday period. The Postal Service claims that retail operations are outside the scope of this proceeding. While certain retail operations, such as perhaps purchasing a money order, are outside of the scope of this complaint, other retail window service activities are directly related to the collection of mail. Obviously, any elimination or reduction of window service will have an effect on the ability of the public to introduce mail into the system. This Complaint should not be limited to only the effect of the public to introduce mail into the system via the "blue boxes" on the corner but by any means that is normally utilized. The elimination or reduction of retail window service is now more relevant than perhaps it was in the past as a result of the aviation security requirements which exist that require all stamped mail over one pound be presented to a postal employee.

4. To the extent that the Postal Service is providing any of this information in response to interrogatories of other parties as claimed, it may respond to my interrogatories by reference to these responses so long as it is responsive to my interrogatory. To the extent that relevant data does not exist over the 14-year period requested, a response with all relevant data should be provided with an explanation. Interrogatory 9 asks for confirmation of an obvious conclusion.

5. For the reasons stated, I move to compel responses to the referenced interrogatories.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon the required participants of record in accordance with Rule 12.

June 19, 2001

  
David B. Popkin