

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before The
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Postal Rate and Fee Changes, 2001)

Docket No. R2001-1

OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE
INTERROGATORIES TO UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
WITNESS: SAMUEL J. KOROMA (OCA/USPS-T37-1-6)
October 2, 2001

Pursuant to Rules 25 through 28 of the Rules of Practice of the Postal Rate Commission, the Office of the Consumer Advocate hereby submits interrogatories and requests for production of documents. Instructions included with OCA interrogatories OCA/USPS-1-21 dated September 28, 2001, are hereby incorporated by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

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Acting Director
Office of the Consumer Advocate

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Attorney

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OCA/USPS-T37-1. Under the current fee schedule for domestic money orders, one fee is charged for money orders valued up to \$700.00. Per your testimony, the Postal Service is not proposing to increase the money order fee for money orders up to \$500.00. However, your testimony at page 40 states, “[P]urchasers of money order [sic] with face value of \$500.01 – \$1000 are receiving a higher value service, so a reasonable fee increase is proposed.”

- (a) Given that the existing domestic money order fee is \$0.90 for a money order valued up to \$700.00, please explain your rationale for claiming that money orders from \$500.01 to \$700.00 now provide a higher value service and thus should be charged the higher fee of \$1.25.
- (b) Please confirm that you indicate at page 40 of your testimony that you are proposing two tiers for money orders -- \$0.01 to \$500.00 and \$500.01 to \$1,000.00.
- (c) Please explain why the Fee Schedule 971 provided in the USPS request indicates that the Postal Service is proposing three distinct domestic money order categories - \$0.01 - \$500.00; \$500.01 - \$700.00; and \$700.01 - \$1,000.00.

OCA/USPS-T37-2. Please confirm that in January 7, 2001, the money order fee was \$0.75 for money orders valued between \$0.01 and \$700.00. If you are unable to confirm, please explain.

OCA/USPS-T37-3. Please confirm that the domestic money order fee was increased to \$0.90 in July 1, 2001, for money orders valued between \$0.01 and \$700.00. If you are unable to confirm, please explain.

OCA/USPS-T37-4. The USPS August 2001, Billing Determinants for FY 2000, indicates that there were 582,140 APO/FPO money order transactions totaling \$174,642. For FY 2000, in \$50.00 increments beginning with \$0.01 - \$50.00, please provide the number of transactions and the total value of APO/FPO money order transactions purchased.

OCA/USPS-T37-5. Your testimony at page 41 states, "Increasing the limit to \$1000 also eliminates the need to purchase two money orders to pay for high dollar value COD purchases. . . . Additionally, it reduces the need to purchase multiple money orders for higher value expenditures such as rent." Please explain why the limit of \$700.00 on Military (APO/FPO) money orders was not increased to \$1,000.00.

OCA/USPS-T37-6. Your testimony at page 42 states, "The highest value of money order readily available through alternative means is \$500.00." Please identify the "readily available alternative means" you are referring to.

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 Rule 12 of the rules of practice.

Stephanie S. Wallace

Washington, D.C. 20268-0001
October 2, 2001