

PRESIDING OFFICER'S
RULING NO. R97-1/25

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R97-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING CONFIRMING
THE APPEARANCE SCHEDULE

(September 19, 1997)

Presiding Officer's Ruling R97-1/22, issued September 18, 1997, established a schedule for the appearances of Postal Service witnesses. The schedule reflects timely filed notices of intent to cross-examine. Three participants, National Association of Presort Mailers, Smartmail, Inc. and Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers subsequently filed notices of expected amounts of cross-examination, accompanied by requests that these late pleadings be accepted. After consideration of these notices I conclude that adjusting the hearing schedule to reflect these submissions would be unnecessarily disruptive. Therefore, the schedule set forth in P.O. Ruling R97-1/22, Attachment A, remains in effect.

As noted in P.O. Ruling R97-1/22, Attachment A, hearings may be held on October 13, 1997, or extended to October 23-24, 1997, if cross-examination cannot be completed as currently scheduled.

P.O. Ruling R97-1/22 was able to accommodate the schedule requests of intervenor Popkin. This moots the Popkin motion to cross-examine witnesses remotely by telephone.


RULING

1. The Motion of National Association of Presort Mailers for Leave to File One Day Late Its Identification of Expected Amount of Oral Cross-examination, filed September 18, 1997, is granted.

2. The Motion of Smartmail, Inc. for Leave to File One Day Late Its Identification of Expected Amount of Oral Cross-examination, filed September 18, 1997, is granted.

3. The request that the Commission accept the Notice of Expected Amount of Oral Cross-examination by Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers one day out of time, filed September 18, 1997, is granted.

4. The David B. Popkin motion To Request the Ability to Cross-examine Witnesses Remotely by Telephone, filed September 10, 1997, is denied.


Edward J. Gleiman
Presiding Officer