

# DOCKET SECTION

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, 1997

Docket No. R97-1

## RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE (OCA/USPS-62-63)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides responses to the following interrogatories of the Office of the Consumer Advocate: OCA/USPS-62-63, filed on September 11, 1997.


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

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.  
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

  
Anne B. Reynolds

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137  
(202) 268-2970; Fax -5402  
September 25, 1997

OCA/USPS-62. News media reports for September 9, 1997, indicate that a Blue Ribbon Committee of top corporate executives issued a report concerning the Postal Service entitled "Finding Common Ground." The news reports also indicate that Postmaster General Runyon launched the committee a year ago.

- a. Please provide a copy of the report.
- b. Please provide a copy of all written remarks or spoken remarks (to the extent the Postal Service has a transcription of such spoken remarks) made by the Postmaster General relating to the report or the committee's work, from the inception of the committee's formation to the present.
- c. Please provide all documents relating to the formation, work, progress, or goals of the committee.
- d. Please provide all documents relating to the solicitation of persons to work on the committee.

RESPONSE:

- a. Please see Library Reference H-281, to be filed today.
- b. Please see Library Reference H-281, to be filed today.
- c. This information is incorporated in the report filed in Library Reference H-xxx.
- d. Please see Attachment A to this response. The initial contact with committee members was made by telephone; a copy of this letter was sent as follow-up to each member.



Mr. John Clark (same letter addressed and sent to each panel member)  
 President & Chief Executive Officer  
 CTC Distribution Services, L.L.C.  
 2160 Mustang Drive  
 St. Paul, MN 55112-1553

Dear John:

Theodore Deikel, Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer, Fingerhut, Inc., and I are pleased to confirm your agreement to join a small group of key industry leaders and postal executives to identify vital issues from the mailer/vendor and the Postal Service's perspective. The purpose of the group is to identify and recommend action steps that are essential to ensure the long-term viability of the mail in meeting the future needs of our customers. We will explore mutually beneficial opportunities and chart a course for development of "win/win" solutions.

We all recognize the success of any business requires periodic reflection upon where it wants to be in the future, to identify any impediments to achieving that desired state, and to develop plans to address those barriers to success. Because of the close, interdependent relationship between the Postal Service and its customers, it is vitally important that there be an understanding of each other's view of the future and how that view might affect (or be affected by) the plans of the other, and where the Postal Service fits into the plans of customers and potential customers.

The Industry Leadership Group/Blue Ribbon Panel will conduct an initial meeting December 10, at the U.S. Postal Service Headquarters Building, Room 7801, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington, D.C., from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. I will share with the group the strategic plans for the Postal Service to grow your mail into the next century. Participants will be asked to share with the group their view of the future and to define in as much detail as necessary the strategies they intend to employ and their expectations of the Postal Service. As background information, you might be interested in the enclosed material.

Please contact John Wargo, Vice President, Sales, at (202) 268-2222 by Monday, December 2, to confirm your attendance at this initial meeting.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by Mr. Henderson)

William J. Henderson

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Deikel  
 bcc: Allen Kane                      Ralph Moden  
       John Wargo                     Stephen Cox  
       John Ward                      NAMs  
       Nick Barranca

175 L'Enfant Pl. SW  
 Washington, DC 20501-2000  
 202 268 1412  
 1-202-268-1412

OCA/USPS-63. In response to OCA/USPS-1 the Postal Service allowed the OCA to review Inspection Service audits of actual data collection for the major statistical sampling systems (RPW, IOCS, TRACS, etc.).

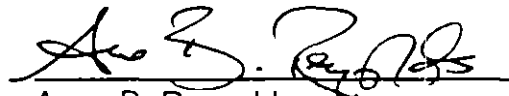
- a. Did data collectors know they were being observed by representatives of the Inspection Service?
- b. Are data collectors ever observed (by IS personnel or others) without the knowledge of the data collectors or their supervisors? If not, why not? If yes, please supply all documents relating to unannounced observations of data collectors.

RESPONSE:

- a. Yes.
- b. No. The purpose of conducting these observations is to ensure that the tests observed are being conducted when they are required, and that the Data Collection Technicians performing the tests are knowledgeable of their duties. Please see the Postal Service's response to OCA/USPS-41. These purposes would not be furthered by conducting the observations covertly.

**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.

  
Anne B. Reynolds

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