

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

EXPERIMENTAL PRIORITY MAIL FLAT-RATE  
BOX, 2004

Docket No. MC2004-2

RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
WITNESS DANIEL J. BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY (OCA/USPS-T2-8-13, 21-23)  
(July 8, 2004)

The United States Postal Service hereby files the response of witness Daniel J. Barrett to the following interrogatories of the Office of the Consumer Advocate: OCA/USPS-T2-8-13, 21-23, filed on June 24, 2004. Objections were filed to interrogatories 8 through 20, but, over objection, answers are here provided to interrogatories 8 through 13.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
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RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-8. OCA received informal advice from the Postal Service recently that free Carrier Pickup service is defined in the DMM. Please provide a citation to any provisions of the DMM that indicate when and how free Carrier Pickup can be obtained.

**Response:**

To the best of my knowledge, all pickup services are discussed in DMM section D010.

RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-9. OCA received informal advice from the Postal Service recently that free Carrier Pickup service is defined in the POM.

- a. Please provide a citation to any provisions of the POM that indicate when and how free Carrier Pickup can be obtained.
- b. Also, please furnish as a library reference the most recent edition of POM issue 8. (At <http://www.usps.com/cpim/ftp/pubs/pub223/c26man.html> edition 7/02 is listed as the most recent version.)
- c. Is POM issue 8, edition 7/02, the most recent version? If not, what is the most recent version?

**Response:**

[a] After searching the POM, with particular focus on Section 3, "Collection Service — National Service Standards" I am unable to identify any specific reference to the online notification service for carrier pickup. If your question refers to other conditions under which carriers may pick up, for no charge, I am unaware of any pertinent POM sections.

[b] A library reference will be filed.

[c] No. It is my understanding that POM issue 8, edition 7/02 is not the most recent version. POM Issue 9, July 2002 Updated With Postal Bulletin Revisions Through March 18, 2004 has been released and appears to be more recent.

RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-10. Please confirm that DMM §D010 “describes what mail classes are available for pickup and situations when pickup service is not available. It also covers additional standards for on-call and scheduled services.” If you do not confirm, please explain why not.

**Response:**

Confirmed.

RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-11. DMM §D010.1.5 refers to a fee for pickup service and a requirement that a customer sign Form 5541. Please furnish a copy of Form 5541 as a library reference.

**Response:**

See the attached form.

# Pickup Service Statement

## Express Mail, Global Express Guaranteed, Priority Mail, or Parcel Post

### 1. Customer Information

Customer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Address 2 \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Payment Method

- Check made payable to "Postmaster"
- Merchandise Return Label
- Express Mail Corporate Account No. or Federal Agency No.: \_\_\_\_\_
- Postage Due Account
- Stamps or Metered
- Postage (*Affix at right*)

5. Customer Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Product Information

*Quantity*

Express Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Global Express Guaranteed \_\_\_\_\_

Priority Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel Post \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Domestic or International)*

Estimated total weight of all packages \_\_\_\_\_  
*(In pounds)*

### 4. Affix Stamps or Meter Strip Here (*If applicable*)

6. USPS Signature \_\_\_\_\_

7. Date & Time of Pickup \_\_\_\_\_

## Instructions

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Completed by Postal Employee:

1. **Customer Information:** Enter customer name (if applicable), address, suite number, city, state, and ZIP + 4 where pickup is requested. If the ZIP + 4 is not known, enter the ZIP Code.
2. **Product Information:** Enter the quantity of each product to be picked up and enter the estimated weight in pounds for all products.
3. **Payment Method:** Indicate method of payment for pickup service. Be sure to include account number where applicable.

Completed by the Customer:

4. **Affix Stamps or Meter Strip Here:** If applicable.
5. Customer Signature.

Completed by Postal Employee:

6. This space is for the signature of the postal employee who picks up the mailpiece(s).
7. The postal employee enters the date and time and place of the pickup.

NOTE TO POSTAL EMPLOYEE: Provide customer part 2, *Customer copy*; and return part 1, *Finance copy* to office for processing.

RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-12. Please confirm that DMM §D010.2.2 states that:

“Pickup fees are listed in R100, R500, and R700. The customer is charged the required fee:

- a. Every time pickup service is provided, regardless of the number of pieces or combination of classes of mail.”

If you do not confirm, please explain why not.

**Response:**

Not confirmed. DMM Issue 58 Updated 7-8-04 states the following in D010.2.2:

Pickup fees are listed in [R100](#), [R500](#), and [R700](#). The customer is charged the required fee:

- a. Every time pickup service is provided, regardless of the number of pieces or combination of classes of mail.
- b. For additional trips to pick up exceptional volume of which the serving post office was not notified.

Therefore, there are also instances in which a fee is not “required.” Section 2.3 discusses these instances.

RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-13. Please confirm that DMM §D010.2.3 states that:

“The customer is not charged the applicable fee for:

\* \* \*

- b. Express Mail, Priority Mail, or Parcel Post that is collected during a regular delivery stop or a scheduled stop to collect mail not subject to a pickup fee.”

If you do not confirm, please explain why not.

**Response:**

Not confirmed. DMM Issue 58 Updated 7-8-04 states the following in D010.2.3:

The customer is not charged the applicable fee for:

- a. A scheduled pickup that is canceled as required.
- b. An on-call pickup that is canceled before the USPS employee is dispatched for the pickup.
- c. Express Mail, Priority Mail, or Parcel Post that is collected during a regular delivery stop or a scheduled stop to collect mail not subject to a pickup fee.
- d. Priority Mail or Parcel Post using a merchandise return service label that indicates that the permit holder will pay for pickup service.
- e. Priority Mail reshipment service ([E120](#)).

RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-21. Is it possible for clusterbox recipients to leave Priority Mail packages in a locked area of a clusterbox for carrier pickup? If so, please explain how this arrangement works. If not, please explain why not.

**Response:** It is my understanding that customers are able to access the locked area of a clusterbox only in receiving a package, and not to leave a package for pickup. The letter carrier leaves the customer a key in the customer's mail box to access a parcel locker containing the parcel. (If no locker is available, a delivery notice may be left in the customer's mail receptacle). However, for security purposes, this key cannot be removed from the lock after the customer opens the locker to retrieve the package. The customer therefore generally has no means of access to the parcel locker to leave packages for pickup.

RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-22. Will it be possible for mailers to leave Priority Mail flat-rate boxes in a locked area of all clusterboxes for carrier pickup? If not, please explain.

**Response:**

No. Please see my response to OCA/USPS-T2-21.

RESPONSE OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BARRETT  
TO OCA INTERROGATORY

OCA/USPS-T2-23. Will high-volume mailers of Priority Mail be permitted to use flat-rate boxes? If so, please explain how the Postal Service will accommodate high-volume mailer requirements. If not, why not? If not, how will the Postal Service prevent high-volume use of the flat-rate option?

**Response:**

The Postal Service currently plans to afford mailers of all types access to the Flat Rate Box options on equal terms via multiple channels. No distinction among mailers based on volume currently is planned in the fulfillment process.

## **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.

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July 8, 2004