

Before The
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Complaint on Stamped Stationery)

Docket No. C2004-3

OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF
NEGOTIATIONS FOR INFORMAL RESOLUTION OF COMPLAINT
(August 6, 2004)

By Notice issued July 8, 2004, the Commission designated Shelley S. Dreifuss, Director of the Office of the Consumer Advocate, (OCA) as settlement coordinator to employ informal procedures to resolve this docket through a negotiated settlement. This report is to comply with the Commission's directive that OCA report on the status of such negotiations within 30 days of July 8, 2004.

A conference call coordinated by OCA was held between Mr. Carlson, Postal Service attorneys and OCA on July 15, 2004. With the approval of all concerned, Mr. Popkin, as an interested participant, also listened to the conference and offered comments. The discussion was frank and useful and established those actions that would be necessary to reach an agreement between Mr. Carlson and the Postal Service for a resolution of the matter.

The Postal Service attorney offered to discuss with his client the options available and to determine if the client is willing to take certain courses of action to resolve the matter without the need for further procedures in this docket. Unfortunately, summer vacations have slowed the process. Because the initial discussions were open and frank and the parties appear to recognize the steps that would be necessary if the

matter can be settled (and those steps are currently being considered by the Postal Service), OCA recommends that the Commission provide additional time until August 20, 2004 for a further report by OCA, as coordinator, on the possibility of settlement.

Respectfully submitted,

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