

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

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES
PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 108-18

Docket No. R2005-1

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN
(DBP/USPS-107)
(June 17, 2005)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its institutional response to interrogatory DBP/USPS-107, submitted on May 31, 2005.

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

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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DBP/USPS-107. Please refer to the USPS website for Express Mail Service Commitments.

- (a) Please confirm that under the Service Commitment column, there are four possible entries: Next day by 12 P.M., Next day by 3 PM, 2 Days, and 2 Delivery Days.
- (b) Please define each of these terms.
- (c) Please confirm that the website states on all scenarios in a yellow box, "Next day by 10 A.M. - Post Office to Post Office only".
- (d) Please confirm that Post Office to Post Office service is not available in all scenarios.
- (e) Please explain why this wording is shown on scenarios where the service is not available?
- (f) Please confirm that the pull-down menu for 2 Delivery Days states, "Guaranteed second-day delivery by noon or 3:00 p.m. For Post Office™ to Addressee mailing, excluding Sundays and holidays. Mailers must use a Post Office to Addressee label for these mailings. For Post Office to Post Office mailings, we offer a second-delivery day by 10:00 a.m. service commitment. Mailers must use a Post Office to Post Office label for these mailings."
- (g) If I send an Express Mail article from Englewood NJ 07631 to Bronx NY 10470 on a Saturday it states it will be delivered in 2 Delivery Days. If I follow the definition for 2 Delivery Days literally, it would appear that the article will be delivered on Tuesday rather than Monday since Sunday does not count and Monday would be the first non-Sunday/holiday delivery day and Tuesday would be the second non-Sunday delivery day. Shouldn't 2 Delivery Days be shown as Next Delivery Day in some instances where it is lack of Sunday/holiday delivery at the destination post office rather than the lack of transportation results in the later delivery?
- (h) Shouldn't there be some distinction shown to indicate the delivery day based on both weekend available transportation as well as delivery/non-delivery on Sunday/holiday?
- (i) Please advise the source of the times and Collection Box locations shown in the places where one may deposit an Express Mail article.
- (j) Please confirm that Express Mail may be deposited in any blue collection box, Express Mail or non-Express Mail.
- (k) Does the deposit of Express Mail prior to a collection time shown on the collection box determine the service standards or is it the time that the article is processed at the outgoing post office that determines the service standards?
- (l) Please discuss how the collection time on an Express Mail collection box should be established with respect to the Express Mail cut-off time at the post office.
- (m) If I deposit an Express Mail article in an APC prior to the cut-off time and it is not logged in until after the cut-off time, does it receive the guarantee that existed prior to the cut-off time?
- (n) Please explain those items you are unable to confirm.

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RESPONSE:

(a) Not confirmed. For example, depending on the origin and destination ZIP Codes entered, a Next Day by 10 A.M service commitment could be applicable.

(b) The Next Day service commitment is next day delivery by noon or 3:00 p.m. of Post Office to Addressee mailings, including Sunday and holidays where delivery available on those days. The 2 Day service commitment is second-day delivery by noon or 3:00 p.m. for Post Office to Addressee mailings, including Sundays and holidays where service is available on those days, while the 2 Delivery Day service commitment is second-day delivery by noon or 3:00 p.m. for Post Office to Addressee mailings, excluding Sundays and holidays. For Post Office to Post Office mailings, these commitments are offered for a 10:00 a.m. commitment.

(c) Confirmed.

(d) Confirmed.

(e) This wording explains the service commitment if that commitment appears based on the origin and destination ZIP Codes entered.

(f) Confirmed.

(g) The Second Delivery Day service commitment is shown where appropriate.

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(h) The need to do so has not been demonstrated.

(i) The Express Mail Service Commitments website uses data that is maintained in the Product Tracking System (PTS).

(j) Confirmed that an Express Mail piece may be deposited in a blue collection box, though the mailer runs the risk of not receiving delivery within the service guarantee that would have applied if it was placed in an Express Mail collection box.

(k) The deposit of Express Mail prior to the collection time shown on the Express Mail collection box determines the service standard. The Express Mail Collection Box Decal provides the standards associated with the collection time for the Express Mail deposited in the collection box.

(l) Collection schedules are set so as to provide the latest possible collection consistent with local acceptance and dispatch capabilities.

(m) Yes.

(n) Explanations contained in relevant parts.