

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

RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON  
(DFC/USPS-77-83)  
(June 24, 2005)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its institutional responses to interrogatories DFC/USPS-77-83, submitted on June 10, 2005.

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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Keith E. Weidner

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137  
(202) 268-6252, Fax -3084

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY

**DFC/USPS-77.** For each number of guaranteed days to delivery (e.g., one, two, three, four, etc.), please provide the percentage of the total volume of Express Mail that is guaranteed for delivery on that number of guaranteed days to delivery.

**RESPONSE:**

The following data is from the Product Tracking System (PTS) (please see the response to OCA/USPS-73 for a discussion of PTS):

Day One: 70%

Day Two: 19%

Day Three: 7%

Day Four: 4%

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY

**DFC/USPS-78.** Please provide the national Area Distribution Center (ADC) network list, by ADC and three-digit ZIP Code, that the Postal Service uses for sorting First-Class flats or SPR's.

**RESPONSE:**

Please see the response to DFC/USPS-63.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY

**DFC/USPS-79.**

- (a) Please confirm that the Postal Service retains an electronic record of the date and time of delivery of numbered Insured Mail.
- (b) Except for Express Mail, please explain why the Postal Service does not provide the electronic record of the date and time of delivery of numbered Insured Mail to customers whose only special service purchased is Insured Mail.

**RESPONSE:**

(a) Confirmed.

(b) Insured mail customers purchase indemnity insurance in the event of loss, damage, or rifling of items of intrinsic value. Less than 2/10ths of 1 percent of the insured mail transactions in 2004 had return receipts (which provide a delivery date, signature and address if different from the address to which the article was addressed), so there may not be a strong demand for insurance customers to know when their package arrived, rather than to know that they are protected in the event of loss or damage. Providing delivery information as part of insurance would be expected to increase insurance costs to some extent. Also, in response to interrogatory DBP/USPS-77 in Docket No. R2001-1, the Postal Service stated that “[a] management decision was made to extend this enhancement [providing delivery information] only to certified and registered mail, as the focus was to enhance the service for First-Class Mail letters.”

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY

**DFC/USPS-80.** Please provide the percentage of volume in each eligible service for which customers purchased return receipts (e.g., customers purchased a return receipt along with 75 percent of Certified Mail, 10 percent of Insured Mail, etc.).

**RESPONSE:**

For FY 2004, the following host special services had these percentages of return receipts purchased in conjunction with them.

Certified Mail                      86.2 percent

Registered Mail\*                      9.0 percent

Insured Mail                      0.2 percent

\* Include non-USPS volumes only, because there was no Postal Service use of return receipts with registered mail.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY

**DFC/USPS-81.** For total return receipt volume, please provide the percentage that customers purchased with each eligible service (e.g., 85 percent of total return-receipt volume was associated with Certified Mail, two percent was associated with Express Mail, etc.).

**RESPONSE:**

For FY 2004, the following is the percentage breakdown of return receipt volume by host special service\*.

Certified Mail                      98.9 percent

Registered Mail                      0.2 percent

Insured Mail                          0.04 percent

\* Return receipt for merchandise, which does not require a host special service, accounted for 0.8 percent of total return receipt volume. USPS certified mail return receipts accounted for 0.6 percent of total return receipt volume and are included in the percentage for certified mail above.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY

**DFC/USPS-82.** Please explain how the Postal Service advises employees that they should not include the weight of the Express Mail label in calculating the postage rate for an Express Mail item that a customer presents at a retail counter without the label already attached. Also, please explain where customers may find this policy or how customers may direct postal employees to this policy.

**RESPONSE:**

While the response to DBP/USPS-28 reflects the standard practice, there is no formal standard operating procedure instructing clerks to apply the label after weighing the mail piece.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY

**DFC/USPS-83.** For Express Mail and single-piece First-Class Mail, please provide information identifying the percentage of total volume that enters the postal system by each of the available modes of collection or deposit (e.g., leave for carrier, deposit in collection box, mail at post office, mail at retail window at a post office, etc.). If breakdowns for the category of single-piece First-Class Mail are available — e.g., stamped versus metered, or everything except bulk metered mail — please provide the information broken down by the available categories.

**RESPONSE:**

The Postal Service does not track this information.