

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268B0001

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

Docket No. R2005-1

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORIES OF DAVID P. POPKIN  
DBP/USPS-224-25  
(July 11, 2005)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its institutional responses to interrogatories of David B. Popkin: DBP/USPS-224-25, filed on June 27, 2005.

Each interrogatory is stated verbatim, followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,  
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

**DBP/USPS-224.** Please refer to your response to OCA/USPS-175. [a] Please refer to your item #3 on page 1. By rural post office, do you mean a post office that has rural delivery service? [b] If not, please explain. [c] If a potential delivery point is within 1/4 mile of a rural post office and is either on the line of travel of a rural delivery carrier or is in an area covered by city delivery service, must they be provided delivery service? [d] If not, please explain.

**RESPONSE:**

a-b. Yes.

c-d. A response to part (c) depends on the details of the particular delivery point. If carrier delivery were not provided then that potential delivery point would be eligible for a free post office box.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
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**DBP/USPS-225.** Please refer to your response to OCA/USPS-175. [a] Please explain how a municipal government can pass local regulations that affect the operation of a federal government agency. [b] Do I understand your response that if a local government precludes me from receiving delivery service by the Postal Service that my only options are to pay for a post office box or to utilize General Delivery service. [c] If not, please explain. [d] Please describe the situation that exists in Garrett Park, Maryland.

**RESPONSE:**

The Postal Service works with its customers regarding their preferences for how they get their mail. The Postal Service may therefore choose to respect a local government's decision that reflects customer preferences. The two basic options for receiving mail are carrier delivery and post office box service (general delivery service is a temporary option, see DMM 508.6.1). So in an area that receives curbside delivery, a homeowner who refuses to erect a curbside receptacle or otherwise expresses a disinterest in carrier delivery would be expected to obtain post office box service. Similarly, in Garrett Park, Maryland, the municipality said that, for reasons of social interaction, it preferred to have all residents go to the post office each day and get their mail. The Postal Service has obliged that request for many decades. Some Garrett Park residents do want and get carrier delivery from a route out of a neighboring post office.