

DOCKET SECTION

BEFORE THE

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 1997

Docket No. R97-1

DOUGLAS F. CARLSON  
INTERROGATORIES TO THE  
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
(DFC/USPS-7-14)

October 14, 1997

Pursuant to sections 25 and 26 of the *Rules of Practice* and section 2(E) of the *Special Rules of Practice*, I, Douglas F. Carlson, hereby submit interrogatories to the United States Postal Service. Responses to these interrogatories will assist me in preparing my direct case.

The instructions contained in my interrogatories to witness Fronk (DFC/USPS-T32-1-7) are incorporated herein by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 14, 1997



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DOUGLAS F. CARLSON

**DFC/USPS-7.** Please provide all directives, policies, documents, or other information relating to the factors that a postmaster should consider in establishing the time of day by which mail normally should be distributed to post-office boxes.

**DFC/USPS-8.**

a. Does the Postal Service require that customers be informed, via signage or otherwise, of the time by which mail normally will be distributed their post-office box?

b. Please provide all information that the Postal Service has relating to the average or typical cutoff time for distribution of mail to post-office boxes that the Postal Service communicates to customers.

**DFC/USPS-9.** For post offices that communicate to customers the time of day by which mail will be distributed to post-office boxes, please provide all directives, policies, documents, or other information relating to the audit procedures or monitoring that the Postal Service conducts to ensure that these post offices normally complete distribution of the mail to the post-office boxes by the stated cutoff time.

**DFC/USPS-10.** Does the Postal Service plan to begin producing any stamped cards that, by their design or other characteristics, will be either more expensive or less expensive to produce than the stamped cards that the Postal Service currently sells?

**DFC/USPS-11.** Is the aspect ratio of a rectangular post card relevant to determining whether the card can be processed by automated equipment? If so, why does the nonstandard surcharge that applies to one-ounce nonstandard letters not apply to cards whose aspect ratio is not conducive to automated processing?

**DFC/USPS-12.** Please confirm that the Postal Service, at some time in the past four years, mailed to all or many residential postal customers nationwide a flyer or document that provided the recipients with information on how to address their mail

properly and in a manner that would enhance the automation compatibility of their mail. Please provide this document and the dates when it was mailed.

**DFC/USPS-13.** Please refer to the response to DFC/USPS-5. To the extent that the characteristics of stamped cards that are described in DFC/USPS-5 facilitate or are otherwise conducive to processing on OCR's and BCS's, is this compatibility with OCR's and BCS's attributable to mere chance or coincidence? If not, please reconcile this response with the response to DFC/USPS-5.

**DFC/USPS-14.** Please provide all information relating to the number of CMRA's that receive their mail via caller service, firm holdout, or special arrangements that allow them to receive their mail by carrier delivery earlier in the day than they would receive their mail in the absence of these special arrangements. If specific quantitative information is not available, please estimate the prevalence of CMRA use of caller service, firm holdout, or other special delivery arrangements. If necessary, please use descriptive terms such as "rare" or "commonplace" if quantitative data are not available.

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### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon the required participants of record in accordance with section 12 of the *Rules of Practice* and sections 3(B) and 3(C) of the *Special Rules of Practice*.



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DOUGLAS F. CARLSON

October 14, 1997  
Emeryville, California