

DOCKET SECTION

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

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Docket No. R97-1

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POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 1997

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**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORY OF THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE  
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS FRONK  
(OCA/USPS-T32-76)**

The United States Postal Service hereby files its response to the following interrogatory, dated September 2, 1997: OCA/USPS-T32-76.

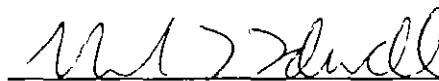
Redirected from witness Fronk, the interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.  
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking



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October 27, 1997

RESPONSE OF U.S. POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORIES OF THE  
OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE  
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS FRONK

OCA/USPS-T32-76. Please refer to page 22 of the report where it states: "There were, however, some areas [of the current BRMAS accounting system] that could be improved." The remaining three sentences in that paragraph report problems with BRMAS accounting.

- a. Please comment on the reported problems. Are the allegations correct? If not, why not?
- b. Have any reports or other summaries about accounting problems with BRMAS been prepared by the Postal Service or its consultants or contractors within the last five years? If so, please submit all such reports. If not, why not?
- c. What is being done to improve the BRMAS accounting system? Please describe. If any report or summary exists about such improvements, please supply it.

RESPONSE:

(a) *The question mischaracterizes this portion of the report as describing "problems" or containing "allegations."* The three sentences referenced in the question are about the publishing company that was interviewed. The publishing company interviewee felt that since BRMAS was not operational 24 hours a day, there were delays in receiving its BRM. The Postal Service acknowledges that BRMAS is not operational 24 hours a day, and the Postal Service does not represent to its customers that BRMAS is available 24 hours a day. While the Postal Service recognizes that its customers could receive their mail faster if BRMAS operated continuously, this is not the case.

(b) Please see the document being filed today as USPS Library Reference H-303. This document, "Business Reply Mail/Postage Due Solution, Final Report Draft" was prepared in February 1997. In addition, see the September 30, 1997 response to NDMS/USPS-T27-4(b).

(c) Please see response to part (b) above.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the Rules of Practice.

  
Michael T. Tidwell

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October 27, 1997