

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

SIX-DAY TO FIVE-DAY CARRIER DELIVERY  
AND RELATED SERVICE CHANGES, 2010

Docket No. N2010-1

RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE INTERROGATORIES  
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS PULCRANO  
(PR/USPS-T1-10 THROUGH 13)  
(June 4, 2010)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides institutional responses to the above-listed interrogatories of the Public Representative dated May 12, 2010. The interrogatories have been redirected from witness Pulcrano to the Postal Service for institutional responses. The interrogatories are stated verbatim and followed by the responses.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORY OF THE PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE  
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS PULCRANO**

**PR/USPS-T1-10**

An Executive Order issued by President Barack Obama on December 30, 2009 requires the United States Postal Service to mobilize for distribution of an antidote in the event of certain bioterrorism acts. Please describe in detail how the proposed plan to eliminate Saturday delivery affects the Postal Service's ability to fulfill its assigned role under the referenced Executive Order.

**RESPONSE**

It does not.

The description of the Executive Order is inaccurate. The Order calls for "a national U.S. Postal Service medical countermeasures dispensing model" to be developed by Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in coordination with the Postal Service. In conjunction with HHS and interested local and State partners, the Postal Service has been working toward a national model since 2004 under the auspices of the Cities Readiness Initiative. The Postal Model is intended to provide a quick-strike mechanism to supplement existing dispensing plans that may require additional activation and preparation time to deploy. The Order did not call for a national postal capability to be established. The model being delivered to the White House National Security Staff, a model for local jurisdictions to consider adopting, will be replicable in any United States metropolitan area whose jurisdictions are willing to engage in the local pre-event preparation necessary to establish such a capability, referred to as their Postal Plan. A Postal Plan's purpose is to augment and supplement public health medical countermeasures distribution, not replace it, and so cannot be activated without integration into State, local, Tribal, and Territorial plans; i.e. standing

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**RESPONSE to PR/USPS-T1-10 (continued)**

capability must be established city by city through collaborative planning and deployment processes, as appropriations allow. For participating jurisdictions, venue-specific Postal Plans created in such an environment ensure coordination of postal assets with Federal, State, local, Tribal, and Territorial emergency response mechanisms.

The task for the Postal Service is to deploy USPS carrier volunteers (recruited, screened for health safety measures, and trained pre-event) to deliver antibiotics to residents at the outset of a catastrophic incident, using the inherent efficiency of existing postal infrastructure. Normal mail delivery would cease in the affected area under such a scenario. Thus, five-day delivery plan does not change the expectation that an established volunteer pool will respond once activated regardless of the day/date/time/weather conditions of any particular Postal Plan activation, subject to the limits of what may be humanly or technologically possible.

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**PR/USPS-T1-11**

If not addressed in response to PR/USPS-T1-10, please describe the status of any implementation plans, regulations or guidance that have been developed in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security and/or other agencies with respect to the Executive Order referenced in PR/USPS-T1-10.

**RESPONSE**

The Federal partners expect to deliver the Postal Model as described above on or before its due date of June 28, 2010, along with supporting annexes addressing security escort by Federal officers in supplement to local and State law enforcement; a strategic-level security planning template for interested jurisdictions to complete; and a breakdown of the tactical planning process to be undertaken once jurisdictions are fully engaged in the pre-event planning process.

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**PR/USPS-T1-12**

If not provided in connection with the response to PR/USPS-T1-10 or 11, please provide copies of any plans, regulations or guidance that address mobilization of the United States Postal Service pursuant to the Executive Order referred to in PR/USPS-T1-10.

**RESPONSE**

See the response to PR/USPS-T1-11.

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**PR/USPS-T1-13**

If not addressed in the response to PR/USPS-T1-10, please discuss how the mobilization ability and effectiveness of the United States Postal Service pursuant to its role under the Executive Order referred to in PR/USPS-T1-10 (and any implementing regulations, guidance or policy) would be affected in weeks where, if the proposal to eliminate most Saturday street delivery is implemented, a Federal holiday reduces street delivery to 4 days a week or a major incident, such as extreme weather, reduces street delivery to fewer than the otherwise anticipated 5 days a week.

**RESPONSE**

See the response to PR/USPS-T1-10.