

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 WITNESS PULCRANO
TO PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE INTERROGATORIES
(PR/USPS-T1-14 THROUGH 24)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides the responses of witness Pulcrano to the above-listed interrogatories of the Public Representative dated June 8, 2010. Each interrogatory is stated verbatim and followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.
Chief Counsel, Pricing and Product Support

Michael T. Tidwell

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-2998; Fax -5402
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**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
INTERROGATORIES OF THE PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE**

PR/USPS-T1-14

Under the Postal Service's plan, please describe in detail the typical processing that a properly addressed and stamped piece of First-Class Mail will undergo after being presented by a customer at a window counter at a post office that is open on Saturday. For purposes of your response, please assume that the customer does not request a hand-applied postmark or cancellation or purchase any ancillary services. Further assume that the subject piece is properly addressed and carries the correct amount of postage.

RESPONSE

A properly addressed and stamped piece of First-Class Mail presented at a retail post office counter on a Saturday would be placed in an appropriate mail transport container (tray or sack) when it was received at the retail Post Office. It would be transported to a Plant and Distribution Center (PD&C) on Monday. On Monday evening, it would be processed at the PD&C. This includes facing and cancelling and an outgoing sortation. If Monday were a holiday, it would be transported to the PD&C on Tuesday and processed on Tuesday evening.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
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PR/USPS-T1-15

Under the Postal Service's plan, will a customer's request for a hand-applied postmark or cancellation cause there to be any difference in processing, relative to that accorded the type of piece described in PR/USPS-T1-14, other than application of the postmark or cancellation?

RESPONSE

No.

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PR/USPS-T1-16

If not addressed in the responses to PR/USPS-T1-14 and PR/USPS-T1-15, please describe where Single-Piece First-Class Mail typically will be physically lodged from the time of presentation by a customer at a post office window counter from Saturday until Monday (or Tuesday, if Monday is a federal holiday). For purposes of your response, please assume that the subject mail is properly addressed and carries the correct amount of postage and indicate whether the presence or absence of a hand-applied postmark or cancellation makes any difference.

RESPONSE

Generally, mail accepted at a retail Post Office on Saturday would remain in the Post Office until Monday or Tuesday, if Monday was a holiday. On the next delivery day (Monday or Tuesday, if Monday were holiday) it would be transported to the appropriate Processing & Distribution Center for processing. The presence or absence of a hand-applied postmark or cancellation will make no difference.

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PR/USPS-T1-17

Please address the type of security that will be provided for Single-Piece First-Class Mail presented at a post office window counter on a Saturday, including whether the type and level of security is expected to differ relative to current practice for similar mail in similar situations, such as over three-day weekends in the existing operating environment.

RESPONSE

The security of mail accepted at a Post Office on Saturday would be similar to current practice for mail that is accepted after its critical acceptance time. Generally, the mail will be secured in a locked Post Office over the weekend until Monday (or Tuesday, if Monday is a holiday).

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
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PR/USPS-T1-18

You state, in connection with the Optional Saturday processing plan discussed at USPS-T-1 at 15-16, that "initiation of processing" for local outgoing and incoming Sectional Center Facility mail entered on Saturday will be available for those who meet three stated requirements. Please describe in detail the steps or activities included in your reference to "initiation of processing." For purposes of your response, if more than one possibility exists, please provide several representative examples.

RESPONSE

Pages 15 -16 of my testimony (USPS-T-1) refer to the "initiation of processing" or the beginning of processing for local outgoing and incoming mail. Such mail will be sorted with other destinating mail. The sortation of letters, flats and parcels by class or subclass mail will be made for such mail as it is today for destinating mail. There will be a primary and, if needed, secondary sort of the mail.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
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PR/USPS-T1-19

If not covered in your response to PR/USPS-T1-18, please address where mail processed under the Optional Saturday plan typically will be physically lodged once all steps or activities covered by “initiation of processing” are concluded. For purposes of your response, if more than possibility exists, please provide several representative examples.

RESPONSE

See my response to PR/USPS-T1-18.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
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PR/USPS-T1-20

Has the Postal Service developed an estimate or formed an expectation about the level of participation in the bulk mail Optional Saturday processing plan in terms of number of bulk mail permit holders, by class of mail, and/or related volume, either in terms of a “back of the envelope” calculation or a more formal estimate?

RESPONSE

No.

This option was developed in the course of stakeholder outreach. I am informed that many business mailers and non-profit organizations (churches, synagogues, fraternal organizations) have bulk mail that originates and destines with the service area of a Sectional Center Facility. The 5-Day Team decided that offering such an option would be beneficial to such mailers.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
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PR/USPS-T1-21

Does the Postal Service anticipate a need for any additional security or changes in security plans for bulk mailings presented under the Optional Saturday processing plan?

RESPONSE

No. Local outgoing and incoming mail will be processed with other destinating mail. As a result, no additional security is needed for such mail.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
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PR/USPS-T1-22

Under the Postal Service's plan, assuming similar types of commercial bulk mailings are involved, please state whether (and how) local outgoing and incoming Sectional Center Facility processing of commercial bulk mailings entered on Fridays by or before the Critical Entry Time is expected to differ from the "initiation of processing" for qualifying commercial bulk mailings entered under the proposed Optional Saturday processing plan.

RESPONSE

It has been decided that the local turnaround mail optional mail makeup will be offered on Saturday. The Postal Service is considering making this local turnaround optional mail makeup available the other days of the week because, if this optional mail makeup were available on other days, there would be no difference in how such mail is made up by mailers any day of the week.

If the optional mail makeup only applied to mail accepted on Saturday, it would mean that such mail accepted on Friday before the Critical Entry Time would be delivered to street addresses on Monday, just as the mail accepted on Saturday would be. Hence, they would be treated the same in terms of expected day of delivery.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
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PR/USPS-T1-23

Please provide the number of National Firm Holdout accounts for the most recently available fiscal year.

RESPONSE

I am informed that in June 2010, there were:

- 777 national firm holdouts for remittance mail;
 - 230 national firm holdouts for courtesy reply FIM remittance mail; and
- approximately 183,000 local courtesy firm holdouts nationally.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS PULCRANO TO
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PR/USPS-T1-24

If the Postal Service's plan is approved essentially as proposed, does the Postal Service expect the number of National Firm Holdout accounts to increase solely because of the adoption/implementation of the plan?

RESPONSE

The Postal Service does not expect the number of National Firm Holdouts to increase solely because of the implementation of five-day delivery. We assume that the number of Post Office Box and Caller Service customers could increase solely due to implementation of five-day delivery.