

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

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

Docket No. N2010-1

INTERROGATORIES AND REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS
DIRECTED BY THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE WITNESS EDWARD LUTTRELL
(USPS/PR-T2-1 THROUGH T2-24)

Pursuant to rules 25 and 26 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure, the United States Postal Service hereby directs the following interrogatories and requests for the production of documents to Public Representative witness Edward Luttrell: (PR-T-2): USPS/PR-T2-1 through T1-24.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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USPS Interrogatories to PR witness Luttrell

USPS/PR-T2-1.

Please refer to page 7, line 11 of your testimony.

- (a) Explain how the proposed elimination of Saturday mail delivery to street addresses in states whose voting procedures are subject to U.S. Department of Justice review could disproportionately affect the participation in the electoral process by persons of “minority status” in those states. In your response, explain and contrast the impact that the elimination of Saturday delivery to street addresses could have on the ability of persons who lack such “minority status” to participate in the same electoral processes. Also, in your response, explain and contrast the impact that the elimination of Saturday delivery to street addresses could have on the ability of persons of “minority status” and those without such status to participate in local electoral processes in the United States that are not subject to Department of Justice review.
- (b) Explain how the proposed elimination of Saturday processing of outgoing single-piece First-Class Mail in states whose voting procedures are subject to U.S. Department of Justice review could disproportionately affect the participation in the electoral process by persons of “minority status” in those states. In your response, explain and contrast the impact that the elimination of Saturday processing of outgoing single-piece First-Class Mail could have on the ability of persons who lack such “minority status” to participate in the same electoral processes. Also, in your response, explain and contrast the impact that the elimination of Saturday processing of outgoing single-piece First-Class Mail could have on the ability of persons of “minority status” and those without such status to participate in local electoral processes in the United States that are not subject to Department of Justice review.
- (c) Explain how the proposed elimination of Saturday pick-up of outgoing single-piece First-Class Mail from collection boxes in states whose voting procedures are subject to U.S. Department of Justice review could disproportionately affect the participation in the electoral process by persons of “minority status” in those states. In your response, explain and contrast the impact that the elimination of Saturday pick-up of outgoing single-piece First-Class Mail from collection boxes could have on the ability of persons who lack such “minority status” to participate in the same electoral processes. Also, in your response, explain and contrast the impact that the elimination of Saturday pick-up of outgoing single-piece First-Class Mail from collection boxes could have on the ability of persons of “minority status” and those without such status to participate in local electoral processes in the United States that are not subject to Department of Justice review.

USPS Interrogatories to PR witness Luttrell

USPS/PR-T2-2.

Please refer to page 7, line 8 of your testimony. Identify the “various Southern states that have increased use of mail balloting in recent years.” For each state, please fully describe the changes in voting procedures to which you refer and provide citation to the state statutes and regulations governing those procedures.

USPS/PR-T2-3.

Please refer to your testimony at page 7, lines 21-22. Separately for each specific postal service change at issue in this proceeding (see USPS-T-1), please explain how and by whom that service change could be “seen as discouraging minority rural residents in southern states from casting ballots in local state and national elections.”

USPS/PR-T2-4.

Please refer to your testimony at page 7, line 12-16. Separately for each specific postal service change at issue in this proceeding (see USPS-T-1), please explain how and by whom that change might be challenged as a violation of the provisions of the Voting Rights Act. In your response cite specific provisions of the Act and explain how each might be implicated.

USPS/PR-T2-5.

Please refer to PR-T-2 at page 6, line 19. Please identify all states that comprise the majority in which “private self-governing entities” are required to “conduct their business utilizing postal voting.” For each state, please provide citation to the statute, ordinance and/or regulation requiring these entities to use of the mail for such purposes, and indicate in each case whether postal voting is the exclusive method that must be used. In your response, please clarify which organizations are referenced by use of the word “these” in line 20.

USPS/PR-T2-6.

Please refer to the sentences on page 6 of your testimony that begin at lines 4 and 12. Is it your testimony that all 40,000 local governmental agencies in the United States increasingly rely on the U.S. mail to conduct votes? If so, please explain and provide specific examples.

USPS/PR-T2-7.

Please refer to your testimony at page 3, line 28 and explain what you mean by the “predictability of six day postal delivery service.”

USPS/PR-T2-8.

Please refer to your testimony at page 4, line 13 and explain how the service changes under review in this docket, if implemented, would result in a “loss of the inherent statutory protections that postal delivery provides”?

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USPS/PR-T2-9.

Please refer to your testimony at page 6, line 25.

- (a) Explain how the elimination of Saturday delivery of single-piece First-Class Mail to street addresses would disenfranchise members of the United States Armed Forces serving their nation far away from home who wished to participate in elections conducted by “governing entities they are affiliated with”?
- (b) Explain how the elimination of Saturday collection box pick-up would disenfranchise members of the United States Armed Forces serving their nation far away from home who wished to participate in elections conducted by “governing entities they are affiliated with”?
- (c) Explain how the elimination of Saturday processing of outgoing single-piece First-Class Mail would disenfranchise members of the United States Armed Forces serving their nation far away from home who wished to participate in elections conducted by “governing entities they are affiliated with”?
- (d) Please state your understanding of the changes to the processing of single-piece First-Class Mail (which would includes election ballots) that the Postal Service is proposing in this docket.

USPS/PR-T2-10.

Please refer to your testimony at page 2, lines 9 and 10.

- (a) Please list and describe the criteria by which you judge whether a high speed Internet service is “reliable.” Please identify examples of such service.
- (b) Please list and describe the criteria by which you judge whether a high-speed Internet service is “Cost effective.” Please identify examples of such service.

USPS/PR-T2-11.

- (a) Please refer to page 2, line 12 of your testimony. Is it your testimony that the elimination of Saturday delivery to rural street addresses should only be contemplated when the transition to electronic communications in rural areas reaches a certain threshold?
- (b) Please refer to page 3, line 16. Please clarify whether the “universal access to advanced telecommunications services” to which you refer would be on a 5-, 6-, or 7-day a week basis.

USPS/PR-T2-12.

Please refer to your testimony at page 4, lines 3-5. Provide citations to the “[s]tatutes related to postal fraud” to which you refer. Explain your understanding of whether any United States federal or state statutes currently provide protection or remedies for persons from whom other parties have used non-postal delivery services to obtain money or property through fraud or misrepresentation.

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USPS/PR-T2-13.

For documents mailed, shipped or otherwise transmitted to courts and government agencies, are postmarks applied by the United States Postal Service the exclusive “evidence of legal compliance” with court or agency filing deadlines?

USPS/PR-T2-14.

Please refer to your testimony at page 4, lines 7-8. Is it your testimony that no “small, rural, micro businesses” are able to negotiate favorable service concessions from for-profit postal competitors? If so, please provide detailed descriptions of the characteristics of businesses located in rural areas that are able to negotiate such concessions.

USPS/PR-T2-15.

Refer to your testimony at page 4, lines 11-12.

- (a) For the past three fiscal years, please provide all data reflecting National Grange member survey results relating to the frequency, quantity of time spent, and transaction costs associated with member visits to post offices.
- (b) Please provide all data reflecting National Grange member survey results relating to the frequency, quantity of time spent, and transaction cost changes anticipated in the event that the Postal Service implements the service changes under review in this docket.
- (c) Please explain and quantify the “extra time costs of visiting local post offices” that National Grange members believe they would experience if the Postal Service implements the service changes under review in this docket.

USPS/PR-T2-16.

- (a) Please identify all persons at the Postal Regulatory Commission with whom you (or others in your organization) communicated in reference to the decision of your organization to file testimony in this docket.
- (b) Please identify all persons employed by any intervenor in this docket other than the Grange with whom you (or others in your organization) communicated in reference to the decision of your organization to file testimony in this docket.

USPS/PR-T2-17.

Please refer to your testimony at page 4, line 11. Please identify all criteria that differentiate “small micro businesses such as family farmers” from other-sized family farm business operations.

USPS/PR-T2-18.

Please refer to your testimony at page 4, line 5 and more fully describe the “innovative, single and small unit batch parcel post, package and bulk mail pricing policies” discussed there.

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USPS/PR-T2-19.

Please refer to your testimony at page 4, lines 23-28.

- (a) Describe the means by which farm and rural customers place orders for “critical items” that are purchased by mail order.
- (b) Please confirm that some of the “critical items that farm and rural customers regularly purchase by mail order” are recurring or regularly scheduled purchases, as opposed to unanticipated or unforeseen purchases. If you do not confirm, please explain.
- (c) Describe the steps a farm or rural customer can take to expedite the postal delivery of “critical items” that a pharmaceutical or agricultural supplier might otherwise send via Parcel Post or Standard Mail.

USPS/PR-T2-20.

Please refer to page 5, lines 26-28 of your testimony.

- (a) Please provide copies of all documents reflecting communications that the National Grange has received from government and non-government organizations during calendar years 2007, 2008 and 2009 in which those organizations have expressed a commitment to encouraging and/or requiring greater mail voting and participation in elections and referendums.
- (b) Please provide copies of all documents reflecting communications that the National Grange has received from government and non-government organizations in calendar year 2010 in which those organizations – compared to years 2007-09 – have expressed a diminished commitment to encouraging and/or requiring greater mail voting and participation in elections and referendums.

USPS/PR-T2-21.

Please refer to your testimony at page 5. At line 8, you state that there is no “cost-effective” alternative to the postal service for delivery of live poultry chicks. Please provide data comparing postal delivery prices and the prices of the alternatives to which you refer for comparison.

USPS/PR-T2-22.

At page 5, line 1 of your testimony, you state that “Travel of 30 miles one way to reach a community where there is a doctor’s office or a pharmacy is not unusual.” Please provide any available data indicating the percentage of National Grange membership for whom it is not unusual to travel

- (a) more than 20 and up to 30 miles one way;
- (b) more than 10 and up to 20 miles one way;
- (c) more than 5 and up to 10 miles one way;
- (d) up 5 miles one way;

to reach a community where there is a Post Office, postal station or branch, community post office, or contract postal unit.

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USPS/PR-T2-23.

Please refer to your testimony at page 5, line 10.

- (a) Do you agree that the risk of “baby chicks arriving dead or in a malnourished state to . . . family farmers, spreading disease among other live poultry shipments” today in a six-day delivery environment is greatly diminished by the fact that the Postal Service routinely calls recipients of such shipments by telephone to arrange for expeditious pick-up on the day of arrival at the delivery unit? If not, please explain.
- (b) Do you agree that the risk of “baby chicks arriving dead or in a malnourished state to . . . family farmers, spreading disease among other live poultry shipments” today in a six-day delivery environment is greatly diminished by the fact that some shippers use Express Mail? If not, please explain.

USPS/PR-T2-24.

Please indicate what percentage of National Grange members have their mail delivered to:

- (a) a rural route (or street) address;
- (b) a Post Office Box.