



COMMENT TO RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES Docket No. MC2012-26
POSTAL SERVICE TO ORDER NO. 1366

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To Whom It Concerns:

My name is Kelly Sowers. My husband and I own and operate a retail shipping business. Our service offerings include postal products and mailbox rental.

I see that the USPS is requesting enhancements to the P.O. Box service they offer. It aims to give customers the ability to use the P.O. Box service more “conveniently and efficiently”¹ For the additional service (ability to use street addresses, private carrier package receiving, and e-mail notifications), the

postal service does not intend to charge a price to customers for it. “Given the large number of unpriced enhancements that are made every year, the required 3642 filings could quickly overwhelm the resources of both the Postal Service and the Commission”². The enhancements compete directly with the services I provide my customers for which I charge a price. The financial condition of the postal service does not warrant offering more services with no price.

The USPS wants to regulate an unfair advantage over me and my business. Those unfair regulatory advantages include, but are not limited to:

- A (postal imposed) requirement for me to keep and handle mail for 6 months for departed or cancelled mailbox customer. The USPS does not require itself to do that.

¹ Docket No. MC2012–26

² Docket No. MC2012–26

- Once a private mailbox contract has ended, my customers have to change their address by individually calling and writing each company or person sending them mail. Post office customers do not. They can file a change of address form once and for all.
- The postal service offers free forwarding service to its PO Box customers. As a store owner, I have to apply new postage to any item that is forwarded during this term.



Additionally, further regulated advantages are on the table:

- The USPS desires to move from 6-day to 5-day delivery where the 6th delivery day is provided to P. O. Box customers but not mine. If the Post Office gets approval of their desired 5-day delivery plan, they would gain yet another unfair advantage over PMB service.

Granting permission for the “unpriced” mailbox enhancements the postal service wants doesn’t seem to have a real financial benefit for them. They might argue that an increased price for all postal boxes would pay for the extra labor involved to implement the enhancements. The USPS financial problems are not caused by a lack of mailbox services nor will they be solved or in the slightest bit helped by them. Therefore, mailbox enhancements and the regulated advantages serve to compete with me and do damage to my business.

Sincerely

Kelly Sowers