

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

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2006

Docket No. R2006-1

RESPONSES OF POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BERKELEY
TO INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON
(DFC/USPS-T39-18-20)

The United States Postal Service hereby files the responses of witness Berkeley (USPS-T-39) to the above listed interrogatories, filed on June 2, 2006.

Each 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

David H. Rubin
Attorney

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-2986; Fax -6187
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**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BERKELEY TO
INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON (DFC/USPS-T39-18-20)**

DFC/USPS-T39-18. With reference to volume data in USPS-LR-L-75, please discuss and evaluate the effect on return-receipt volume of the classification change in Docket No. R2001-1 to provide the date and time of delivery as a basic element of certified mail and registered mail service.

RESPONSE:

Since FY 2002, when the delivery data enhancement became a basic feature of certified mail and registered mail, the volume of basic (green card) return receipt transactions has consistently declined. The volume decreased from 242 million in 2002, to 225 million in 2003, to 217 million in 2004, to 208 million in 2005.

During this same period, certified mail volume also decreased, although to a lesser extent, and the percentage of certified mail using green card return receipt service declined from 85 percent in 2002 to 79 percent in 2005. Additionally, return receipt after mailing volume has increased substantially in the last couple of years. All of these changes are consistent with the conclusion that some certified mail customers have stopped using basic (green card) return receipt service since 2002 and may be relying on the delivery information included with certified mail. Also, since the price of return receipt after mailing service has decreased by over 50 percent since 2000, some green card return receipt customers may have switched to this return receipt option as a method to get the service only when they really need it.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BERKELEY TO
INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON (DFC/USPS-T39-18-20)**

DFC/USPS-T39-19. Please provide a copy of the portion of a POS-One receipt for an electronic return receipt transaction that provides instructions to customers for obtaining their electronic return receipt.

RESPONSE:

The POS-One receipt has the following verbiage on how to receive electronic return receipt service.

*** Use label #R999999999 for inquiry on Return Receipt (Electronic).
*** IMPORTANT: For Return Receipt (Electronic), wait one day, go to www.usps.com ; select Track & Confirm; enter label number(s); select 'Request Return Receipt (Electronic)'; enter your name and email address. Please make your request within 60 days.

Note: Label #R9999999999 shows the actual label number for the host special service.

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS BERKELEY TO
INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON (DFC/USPS-T39-18-20)**

DFC/USPS-T39-20. Please provide a copy of the portion of an IRT receipt for an electronic return receipt transaction that provides instructions to customers for obtaining their electronic return receipt.

RESPONSE:

There are no instructions on an IRT receipt for obtaining electronic return receipt service; however, for offices with IRTs, a Form 3811-I with instructions for obtaining electronic return receipt service is provided to electronic return receipt customers. Below is the verbiage for the instructions on a Form 3811-I:

**Instructions for Requesting
Return Receipt (Electronic)**

To request a Return Receipt (Electronic), visit our web site at *usps.com* and complete the following steps:

- 1) Select "Track & Confirm."
- 2) Enter the label number from your Certified Mail™, Registered Mail™, Insured Mail, or COD receipt.
- 3) Select "Request Return Receipt (Electronic)."
- 4) Enter your name and e-mail address.

Please make your request for a Return Receipt (Electronic) within 90 days from the date of mailing.

PS Form **3811-I**, November 2004 (PSN: 7530-07-000-4101)