

**BEFORE THE
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001**

Postal Rate and Fee Changes, 2006

Docket No. R2006-1

**DOUGLAS F. CARLSON
INTERROGATORIES TO UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
WITNESS ALTAF F. TAUFIQUE (DFC/USPS-T48-21-24)**

August 7, 2006

Pursuant to sections 25–27 of the *Rules of Practice*, I hereby submit interrogatories to United States Postal Service witness Altaf F. Taufique.

The instructions accompanying DFC/USPS-T34-1–4 are incorporated herein by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 7, 2006

DOUGLAS F. CARLSON

DFC/USPS-T48-21. Do other countries that produce a “Forever Stamp” permit customers to use the stamp as valid postage valued at the current basic rate on letters and parcels of any weight, domestic or international, or do these countries limit use of the “Forever Stamp” to only certain items, such as 20-gram domestic letters? Please explain and identify the countries.

DFC/USPS-T48-22. Please provide all documents produced by the Postal Service since January 1, 2003, that describe potential problems associated with a “Forever Stamp” for the U.S. Postal Service.

DFC/USPS-T48-23. Did the Postal Service survey public opinion on likely public acceptance of a “Forever Stamp” if the stamp were valid only for postage to pay the one-ounce First-Class rate? Please explain.

DFC/USPS-T48-24.

- a. Please confirm that customers seeking to mail a one-ounce First-Class letter sometimes place a postage stamp for the current rate (e.g., 39 cents) on the envelope, then bring the envelope to a retail window clerk to discuss options for expediting delivery of the letter. If you do not confirm, please explain.
- b. Please confirm that customers seeking to mail a letter sometimes place a postage stamp for the current rate (e.g., 39 cents) on the envelope, then bring the envelope to a retail window clerk to check the weight. If you do not confirm, please explain.

- c. In the example in (a), suppose that the retail window clerk sells the customer Priority Mail and places the customer's #10 envelope inside an EP-14H Priority Mail envelope. Suppose, further, that the customer had applied a "Forever Stamp" to the envelope. Would this "Forever Stamp" be valid as partial postage payment for the Priority Mail rate? Please explain.
- d. In the example in (b), suppose that the retail window clerk determines that the envelope weighs two ounces. Would the "Forever Stamp" be valid as partial postage payment for the two-ounce First-Class letter rate? Please explain.
- e. Suppose that a customer is sending a #10 envelope that weighs two ounces. The customer, however, places only a single "Forever Stamp" on the envelope and then deposits the envelope in the mail. Suppose, further, that the Postal Service determines that postage is due. If the rate for a two-ounce letter is 62 cents and the value of a "Forever Stamp" is 42 cents, how much postage due would the recipient be charged?