## Postal Regulatory Commission

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## **Press Release**

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## PRC Initiates Docket to Review USPS Retail Network Optimization Plan

**Washington, DC** – The Postal Regulatory Commission today issued <u>Order No: 244</u> establishing <u>Docket N2009-1</u> to provide a public hearing and issue an advisory opinion on the national service implications of a U.S. Postal Service "Station and Branch Optimization and Consolidation Initiative."

The Postal Service has advised it will examine approximately 3,200 postal stations and branches nationwide for possible closure or curtailment and that an additional 1,600 stations and branches could likewise be reviewed depending on the outcome of the initial examination.

The Commission proceeding provides a transparent on the record process to ensure that any nationwide changes in postal service are consistent with the Postal Service's obligation to provide prompt, reliable, and efficient postal services to customers in all areas and to all communities.

The Commission invites interested parties to participate in the process in accordance with CFR 39 §3001.20(b). Requests are due on or before July 28, 2009. A prehearing conference is scheduled for July 30, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. in the Commission's hearing room.

- 30 -

The Postal Regulatory Commission is an independent federal agency comprised of five Presidentially-appointed and Senate-confirmed Commissioners, each serving terms of six years. The Chairman is designated by the President. In addition to Chairman Blair, the other Commissioners are Vice Chairman Nanci Langley, Ruth Goldway, Tony Hammond, and Mark Acton.