## Postal Regulatory Commission

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## **Press Release**

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## PRC Issues Updated FOIA Rules Specifying "Presumption of Openness" Standard

**Washington, DC** – The Postal Regulatory Commission today issued amended regulations for Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests that specify the "presumption of openness" policy for Federal agencies articulated earlier this year by President Barack Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder. The new rules also incorporate changes in keeping with the OPEN Government Act of 2007. Order No. 322 is available on the Commission's web site, <a href="www.prc.gov">www.prc.gov</a>, and will be published in the Federal Register.

"The Commission is proud to continue its leadership in promoting transparency by being the <u>first Federal agency</u> to adopt new Freedom of Information Act rules that specifically respond to the President's call for a presumption of openness and disclosure for all decisions involving FOIA," said Chairman Ruth Y. Goldway.

The new FOIA rules support the underlying principle of transparency embedded in the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act. Adoption of updated FOIA rules continues a longstanding Commission policy to provide expansive public access to Commission records and proceedings. The rules also recognize the importance of appropriately protecting confidential Postal Service and third-party information submitted to the Commission, as well as protecting records containing private personal data.

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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 Goldway, the other Commissioners are Vice Chairman Hammond, Dan Blair, Nanci Langley, and Mark Acton.