Tailor its regulations to impose the least burden on society, consistent with obtaining regulatory objectives and taking into account—among other things and to the extent practicable—the costs of cumulative regulations;

(3) In choosing among alternative regulatory approaches, select those approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity);

(4) To the extent feasible, specify performance entity objectives, rather than the behavior or manner of compliance a regulated entity must adopt; and

(5) Identify and assess available alternatives to direct regulation, including economic incentives—such as user fees or marketable permits—to encourage the desired behavior, or provide information that enables the public to make choices.

Executive Order 13563 also requires an agency “to use the best available techniques to quantify anticipated present and future benefits and costs as accurately as possible.” The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB has emphasized that these techniques may include “identifying changing future compliance costs that might result from technological innovation or anticipated behavioral changes.”

We are proposing this priority only on a reasoned determination that its benefits would justify its costs. In choosing among alternative regulatory approaches, we selected the approach that would maximize net benefits. Based on the analysis that follows, the Departments believe that this regulatory action is consistent with the principles in Executive Order 13563.

We also have determined that this proposed regulatory action would not unduly interfere with State, local, and tribal governments in the exercise of their governmental functions.

In accordance with both Executive orders, the Department has assessed the potential costs and benefits, both quantitative and qualitative, of this regulatory action. The potential costs associated with this regulatory action are those resulting from statutory requirements and those we have determined as necessary for administering the Department’s programs and activities.

Intergovernmental Review: Some of the programs affected by this proposed priority are subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR Part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

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You may also access documents of the Department published in the Federal Register, by using the advanced search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: October 21, 2013.

Arne Duncan,
Secretary of Education.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:


The Postal Service’s proposed rule includes new pricing eligibility for retail and commercial nonpresorted First-Class Mail® letters, several mail classification changes, and some condensing of current standards for Periodicals publications.

Proposed Change for Letters

Retail and Commercial First-Class Mail® Letters

The Postal Service proposes to add a new single-piece commercial nonpresorted First-Class Mail letter price category to be called Metered Mail price. Prices for this category are separate from other retail single-piece First-Class Mail letters and would apply for First-Class Mail letters when postage is affixed or imprinted by the mailer for metered indicia, PCPostage, precanceled stamps, or permit imprint. The price also would be available for single-piece retail letters when postage is paid as described. There would be no minimum volume, except for pieces paid by permit imprint, for which the existing minimum of at least 200 pieces would apply. These prices also would apply to residual pieces from automation or nonpresorted First-Class Mail letter mailings, presented in letter trays. When such residual pieces are part of a permit imprint mailing for the presorted or automation mailing, and claimed on the same postage statement as the primary mailing, there would be no separate minimum number of pieces for the commercial nonpresorted portion.

The Postal Service proposes to change the current price structure for residual First-Class Mail letters. Residuals from uniform 1-ounce presort letter mailings will pay the 1-ounce Metered letter price. Residuals from uniform 2-ounce presort letter mailings will pay the 2-ounce Metered letter price Residuals from mixed mailings of 1-ounce and 2-
ounce letters will pay the “blended” First-Class Mail Residual letter price.

Proposed Changes for Flats

All Flats

Although not making any changes to mailing standards with this filing, the Postal Service will evaluate the impact of certain types of paper and other physical characteristics for flat mail machinability and may later propose related changes in standards for automation flats.

Standard Mail® Flats

We propose to disallow the use of detached address labels (DALs) with all Standard Mail flats mailed with simplified addresses (EDDM®). Therefore, all EDDM flats (entered at BMEUs or Retail) would have to bear simplified addresses directly on the flats.

Required Flats Sequencing System (FSS) Preparation

The Postal Service initially introduced optional FSS preparation standards in the August 23, 2010 Federal Register, final rule (75 FR 51668–51671) which were incorporated into the DMM on January 2, 2011. These FSS preparation standards were developed in collaboration with the mailing industry group, including both mail owners and mail service providers. This industry group determined that the preparation of bundles and pallets specifically for FSS processing could lead to greater efficiencies and cost savings for both the USPS and the mailing industry. The mailing industry group agreed that the production of uniform bundle heights could reduce the costs associated with preparing bundles, and that more stable pallet construction would improve mailer transport of the mail to drop shipment locations. In addition, preparing FSS scheme pallets allows for the creation of larger pallets, which permits the mail to move directly to the FSS mail prep area.

In the August 23, 2010 final rule, the Postal Service also provided advance notice that FSS-based mail preparation requirements would become mandatory at some point in the future. The Postal Service now proposes to require bundle and pallet preparation of flat-size Standard Mail, Periodicals and Bound Printed Matter mailpieces prepared for delivery within the ZIP Codes™ served by FSS processing. FSS is a critical element in the Postal Service’s strategic operations plan. The expansion of its use will allow the Postal Service to improve delivery efficiency and control costs. The efficient induction of mailpieces into FSS requires bundles of flats to be of equal height, in order to facilitate their placement into the standard containers that feed into the FSS induction mechanism.

With this revision, mailers would be required to place mailings of presorted and basic carrier route Standard Mail flats, and Periodicals and Bound Printed Matter presorted and carrier route flats meeting the deflection standards and the physical standards in DMM 301.3.2, and combined mailings of Standard Mail and Periodicals flats prepared under DMM 705.15 into combined 5-digit FSS scheme pools when addressed for delivery to any FSS 5-digit scheme combination per labeling list L006. Optionally, mailers may include nonmachinable Periodicals flats no more than 1-inch thick if they meet the standards in 705.14.

Mailers would place qualifying mailpieces from all price categories into a separate pool for each individual 5-digit FSS-scheme combination. Mailings that include 10 or more pieces of Standard Mail flats, 6 or more pieces of Periodicals flats or 10 or more pieces (or 10 or more pounds) of Bound Printed Matter flats to a FSS scheme must include FSS scheme bundles for that 5-digit FSS scheme. Mailers may optionally prepare scheme pools with less than 10 pieces of Standard Mail flats, 6 pieces of Periodicals flats, or 10 pieces (or 10 pounds) of Bound Printed Matter flats and may prepare a FSS scheme bundle if they have a minimum of 3 inches of mail. Mailings of Bound Printed Matter flats not meeting the eligibility standards for presort or carrier route pricing may also be included in FSS preparation, but would not be eligible for presorted or carrier route prices. All pieces for each combined mailpiece pool must be placed in uniform bundles of between 3 inches and 6.5 inches, except for one overflow bundle that may be under the minimum height. Bundles must be otherwise prepared in accordance with the other conditions in DMM 705.14.0.

Bundles must be identified as 5-digit scheme presort, either with an optional endorsement line (OEL) under 708.7.0 or with a “red Label 5 SCH” barcoded pressure-sensitive bundle label. However, mailpieces entered under a combined mailing of Standard Mail and Periodicals flats will continue to require a unique OEL on each piece as described in DMM exhibit 708.7.1.1. Mailers are reminded that every mailpiece prepared under these standards must carry class and price markings as described in DMM 302.3.0 applicable to the price paid, in addition to the FSS bundle identification.

Pallets prepared to the FSS sort plan level (all for the same 5-digit FSS-scheme ZIP Code combination) would continue to be required at 250 pounds, and optional below 250 pounds. However, FSS facility sort (all 5-digit FSS-scheme ZIP Code combinations processed within the same facility) pallets would be optional at any level. Pallets would be required to bear a pallet placard with an Intelligent Mail container barcode. Mailers without the capacity to palletize could request an exception to these palletization requirements from the local plant manager.

Mailpieces that meet the current eligibility standards for basic carrier route prices would be included in FSS preparation requirement. Saturation price Standard Mail and Periodicals flats are not eligible for this preparation. Mailers may optionally include pieces eligible for high density and high density plus prices in FSS preparation, but their inclusion will not be required. Only saturation, high density, and high density plus mailpieces would be eligible for destination delivery unit (DDU) entry within FSS zones. The sequencing of mailpieces within bundles is not required or recommended when preparing FSS bundles.

The Postal Service is adding a new destination FSS (DFSS) price for FSS sort plan containers entered at the correct FSS facility. Initially only FSS sort plan containers would be eligible for these destination-entry prices. The Postal Service is also investigating the feasibility of allowing FSS facility containers to be entered at FSS facilities that are co-located with bundle sortation capability, but no final decision has been made. DFSS entry piece pricing would be available for Standard Mail flats qualifying for carrier route and 5-digit piece prices.

Standard Mail flats properly included in a FSS scheme pool, but qualifying for 3-digit, ADC or mixed ADC prices, would claim 3-digit prices. However, these pieces would not be eligible for DFSS prices when placed on a FSS scheme pallet entered at a DFSS. These pieces would be eligible for DSCF entry prices. FSS preparation would be optional for Periodicals flats mailed at In-County prices and Periodicals mailings of five thousand pieces or less mailed at Outside-County prices. The 5-digit Outside-County bundle charge would continue to be assessed on bundles of Outside-County Periodicals prepared in accordance with these standards, even
though mailpieces being claimed at the
carrier route piece price may be
properly placed within these bundles.
FSS sort plan pallets would be assessed
the Outside-County container charge for
a 3-digit level pallet, and FSS facility
sort level pallets would be charged a
container price for an SCF pallet, except
that there will be no container charge
when FSS sort plan pallets are entered
at an FSS facility. The Outside-County
price would be the same as the DSCF
price and the Inside-County pound
price would claim the price for the
“none” entry level. FSS scheme pallets
entered at a FSS facility would pay the
DSCF prices.

Bound Printed Matter (BPM) flats
prepared under these standards placed
on FSS scheme pallets, sacks, or trays,
and entered at a FSS facility would be
eligible for DSCF prices. DFSS entry
prices would not be available for BPM
flats at this time.

Additionally, the Postal Service is
currently investigating the operational
feasibility of allowing flats exceeding 20
ounces to be included in FSS
preparation, and will advise the mailing
industry of its findings.

Proposed Changes for Letters, Flats,
and Parcels

All Commercial Mail

To accommodate changes in facility
functions, the Postal Service has been
allowing destination sectional center
(DSCF) facility pricing at some former
SCFs. As advance notice, effective
January 2015, to qualify for DSCF
pricing, mailers would be required to
enter mail at an actual SCF.

Periodicals

We add a few editorial revisions to
standards for Periodicals in DMM
707.4.0, 707.6.0, 707.7.0, 707.9.0, and
707.18.0 to simplify the text. We
include these revisions in this proposal
to invite any comments and ensure that
we are not removing any text needed by
customers or employees.

Tray and Sack Labels

We propose to add a restriction on all
tray and sack labels to formalize what
has been a practical restriction: that all
tray and sack labels be non-adhesive.
This will enable quicker turnaround of
empty sacks and trays for customer use.

Proposed Changes for Parcels

New Live Animal Transportation Fee

The Postal Service is proposing to
require all shipments containing
mailable live animals to be assessed a
Live Animal Transportation Fee. In
2006, as a result of an assessment
charged by commercial airlines, the
Postal Service first provided notice to
mailers of a surcharge for live shipments
of $0.20 per pound for day-old poultry
in the mail.

To ensure the safety of the animals
during mail processing and
transportation, the Postal Service has
historically provided extra care in
handling live animals as a course of
action, regardless of the class of mail or
the extra service being purchased. This
has resulted in additional expense
incurred by the Postal Service to isolate
and protect live shipments.

Therefore, the Postal Service is
proposing to adopt a per pound Live
Animal Transportation Fee applicable to
all shipments containing live animals.

This proposed Live Animal
Transportation Fee is subject to
regulatory review by the Postal
Regulatory Commission (PRC).

Therefore, the Postal Service would
proceed with the implementation of the
pricing component of this rule following
filing with the PRC and their subsequent
review and input. The Postal Service
expects that the Live Animal
Transportation Fee will help offset costs
for additional handling and care given
to shipments of live animals.

New Minimum Volume Criteria for
Manifested Parcels (MMS & eVS)

To provide customers with more
flexibility to ship their packages using
the Postal Service, we propose reducing
the minimum criteria of 200 pieces or
50 pounds, when paying postage by
permit imprint, to 50 pieces or 50
pounds for manifest mailers using a
manifest mailing system (MMS) and
eVS® for any single-piece parcel
mailings. The Postal Service would
allow a combination of any domestic
single-piece priced (nonpresorted)
parcels to meet the new minimum
criteria using one or more of the
following: Priority Mail Express™
(PME), Priority Mail, First-Class Mail,
First-Class Package Service®, Parcel
Select® Nonpresort, nonpresorted
Bound Printed Matter, and single-piece
Media Mail or Library Mail.

Extra Services and Other Services

Collect on Delivery (COD) Changes

The Postal Service proposes to
remove the current option for senders of
nursery stock shipped Collect on
Delivery (COD) to include special
instructions for undeliverable
shipments to be auctioned off to the
highest bidder and the proceeds
remitted to the sender. Effective July 28,
2013, the holding period for COD
articles was reduced from 30 days to 10
days, resulting in the USPS being able
to return the nursery stock in less time
than we previously would hold it for
delivery. Additionally, this option has
not been commonly used and has been
difficult to administer. Therefore, the
special instructions for auctions are no
longer needed.

The Postal Service also proposes to
expand the standards for COD mail to
allow Hold for Pick Up service to be
added when COD mail is sent as Priority
Mail, First-Class Package Service, or
Parcel Select Nonpresort.

Signature Hand Stamp Usage

The Postal Service will clarify the
standards for use of an addressee’s
signature hand stamp for Priority Mail
Express or accountable mail items.
Specifically, we clarify that the use of a
hand stamp is not exclusive to the Form
3849. Once approved by the Postmaster,
a hand stamp may be used for Priority
Mail Express and other accountable
mail, including a Return Receipt (Form
3811) purchased with the applicable
extra service.

Although these revisions will not be
published in the DMM until January 26,
2014, mailers may begin using
addressee’s signature hand stamps
under the revised mailing standards
upon publication of the final rule.

Filing of Indemnity Claims

The Postal Service is continuing its
efforts to simplify the claims process
and reduce the adjudication period
when customers file indemnity claims.
In addition to further enhancements to
our online claims system, the Postal
Service proposes to streamline the filing
periods and manual processes
associated with claims processing for
improved efficiency. The claims filing
periods for indemnity claims would be
60 days from the date of mailing and
subsequently, the claims appeals
timeline would be reduced from 60 days
to 30 days from the date of the original
decision.

Customers will continue to file
indemnity claims online or, when no
internet access is available to the
customer, claims may be filed by mail
directly to the Accounting Service
Center. A toll-free number is being made
available to obtain Form 1000 for
customers filing by mail. The local Post
Office™ will no longer file the
indemnity claims for customers, which
eliminates this extra time consuming
step.

Clarity is also proposed to the DMM
language for payable claims for coins,
and other collectibles to require a sales
receipt, invoice or bill of sale, or
statement of value from a reputable
dealer, and for firearms to require a Form 1508 submission with the claim. Also, gift cards, most of which are replaceable, are being added to those items under nonpayable claims.

Return Receipt for Merchandise

Additionally, the Postal Service plans to discontinue offering Return Receipt for Merchandise service in July 2014, because Signature Confirmation provides the same or equivalent service for a lower price.

2014 Promotions

The Postal Service will offer numerous mailing promotions in calendar year 2014, and will share the details of these promotions on the RIBBS Web site soon.

Although we are exempt from the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(b), (c)) regarding proposed rulemaking by 39 U.S.C. 410(a), we invite public comments on the following proposed revisions to Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM), incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations. See 39 CFR 111.1.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 111

Administrative practice and procedure, Postal Service.

Accordingly, 39 CFR part 111 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 111—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for 39 CFR part 111 continues to read as follows:


2. Revise the following sections of Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM), as follows:

Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM)

100 Retail Mail

130 First-Class Mail

133 Prices and Eligibility

1.0 First-Class Mail Prices and Fees

1.1 First-Class Mail Single-Piece Price Application

See Notice 123—Price List. The single-piece prices for First-Class Mail are applied as follows:

[Revise items 1.1a and 1.1b as follows:]

1. The card price applies to a card meeting the standards in 101.6.3.

b. The letter price applies to letter-size pieces that meet the standards in 101.1.1 and weigh 3.5 ounces or less, and that are not eligible for and claimed at the card price. There are separate prices for stamped letters, and for letters with postage affixed (other than regular stamps) or imprinted by the mailer (Metered Mail price); see 134.1.1.

134 Postage Payment Methods

1.0 Postage Payment Methods for First-Class Mail

1.1 Payment Method

[Revise the text of 1.1 as follows:] Postage for single-piece First-Class Mail must be paid with affixed postage stamps (604.1.0), postage evidencing system postage (604.4.0) or permit imprint (604.5.0) as specified in 1.0. When mailers affix postage (other than regular stamps) or use permit imprint on letters, such pieces are eligible for the Metered Mail price.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * 200 Commercial Letters and Cards

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * 230 First-Class Mail

233 Prices and Eligibility

1.0 Prices and Fees for First-Class Mail

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * 1.2 Price Computation for First-Class Mail Letters

[Revise the text of 1.2 as follows:] Commercial First-Class Mail Presorted letters are charged at one price for the first 2 ounces, with separate prices for pieces over 2 ounces up to 3 ounces and for pieces over 3 ounces up to 3.5 ounces. Any fraction of an ounce is considered a whole ounce. The pricing per ounce is similar for automation First-Class Mail letters, with pricing per sortation level. Single-piece price letters that are residual pieces from either a Presorted or automation mailing are charged the residual single-piece price for letters up to 2 ounces when the mailing contains both 1-ounce and 2-ounce pieces and pieces are presented together, and the applicable Metered Mail prices (see 234.1.0) for all other residual pieces. See Notice 123—Price List.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * 234 Postage Payment Methods

1.0 Basic Standards for Postage Payment

1.1 Postage Payment Options

[Revise the text of 1.1 as follows:] Postage for Presorted or automation First-Class Mail letters must be paid with affixed postage or permit imprint as specified in 2.0. Residual letters (from presorted or automation mailings) with such postage may be eligible for the Metered Mail price.
5.3 5-Digit Prices for Flats

The 5-digit price applies to flat-size pieces:

[Revise 5.3a as follows:]
- In a 5-digit/scheme bundle of 10 or more pieces, or 15 or more pieces, as applicable; properly placed in a 5-digit/scheme sack containing at least 125 pieces or 15 pounds of pieces; or pieces included in a FSS 5-digit scheme pool prepared under 705.14.
- Properly prepared to a FSS 5-digit scheme pool.

5.4 3-Digit Prices for Flats

The 3-digit price applies to flat-size pieces:

[Add new item 5.4c as follows:]
- That are residual pieces not qualifying for carrier route or 5-digit prices, but properly included in a FSS 5-digit scheme pool prepared under 705.14.

6.0 Additional Eligibility Standards for Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail Flats

6.1 General Enhanced Carrier Route Standards

- Properly prepared to a FSS 5-digit scheme pool.

6.1.2 Basic Eligibility Standards

All pieces in an Enhanced Carrier Route or Nonprofit Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail mailing must:

[Revise item 6.1.2c as follows:]
- Be sorted, marked, and documented under 345.6.0 or 705.8.0; or prepared under 705.14.

6.3 Basic Price Enhanced Carrier Route Standards

- Properly placed on a FSS scheme pallet, pieces eligible for 3-digit prices that are included in a FSS 5-digit scheme pool.

7.0 Additional Eligibility Standards for Automation Standard Mail Flats

7.1 Basic Eligibility Standards for Automation Standard Mail

All pieces in a Regular Standard Mail or Nonprofit Standard Mail automation mailing must:

[Revise item 7.1f as follows:]
- Be marked, sorted and documented under 345.7.0 and 705.8.0 through 705.13.0; or prepared under 705.14.0.

7.3 Price Application

Automation prices apply to each piece properly sorted into qualifying groups:

[Revise 7.3a and 7.3b as follows:]
- The 5-digit price applies to flat-size pieces in a 5-digit/scheme bundle of 10 or more pieces, or 15 or more pieces, as applicable; or 10 or more pieces prepared to a FSS 5-digit scheme pool under 705.14.
- The 3-digit price applies to flat-size pieces in a 3-digit/scheme bundle of 10 or more pieces. It also applies to residual pieces not qualifying for carrier route or 5-digit prices but included in a FSS 5-digit scheme pool prepared under 705.14.

345 Mail Preparation

1.0 General Information for Mail Preparation

[Add a new 1.6 as follows:]

1.6 FSS Preparation

Except for standard mail flats mailed at saturation, High Density or High-Density Plus prices, all standard mail flats destined to FSS zones must be properly prepared to a FSS 5-digit scheme pool under 705.14.0. Flats qualifying for High Density and High-Density Plus prices also may be included in FSS 5-digit scheme pools.
301.3.2 and designating to FSS zones in accordance with labeling list L006, must be prepared under 705.14.0.
* * * * *
366 Enter and Deposit
* * * * *
5.0 Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) Entry

5.1 Eligibility

[Revise the introductory text of 5.1 as follows:]

Bound Printed Matter pieces in a mailing meeting the standards in 3.0 are eligible for the DSCF price when they meet all of the following additional conditions:
* * * * *

b. are deposited at:
[Revise Item 5.1b2 as follows:]
2. a USPS-designated FSS processing facility and correctly placed in a flat tray, sack, or on a pallet, labeled to a FSS sort plan processed by that facility or to a 5-digit destination processed by that facility under labeling list L006. These pieces must include a full delivery address and meet the physical standards for FSS-machinability in 705.14.0.
* * * * *

500 Additional Mailing Services

503 Extra Services

1.0 Registered Mail
* * * * *

1.6 Inquiry on Uninsured Article
* * * * *

1.6.2 When and How to File

[Revise the current third sentence and add a new fourth sentence to 1.6.2 as follows:]
* * * File an inquiry for Registered Mail with no declared value by completing a Form 1000, available online at www.usps.com/forms/pdf/ps1000.pdf. See Publication 122 for additional information.
* * * *

12.0 Collect on Delivery (COD)
* * * * *

12.2 Basic Information

12.2.1 Description

[Revise the text of 12.2.1 as follows:]

Any mailer may use collect on delivery (COD) service to mail an article for which the mailer has not been paid and have its price and the cost of the postage collected (not to exceed $1,000.00) from the addressee’s agent. COD service provides the mailer with a mailing receipt and the USPS maintains a record of delivery (including the recipient’s signature) for two years. The recipient may pay the COD amount due for a mailpiece (with one form of payment) by cash, or a personal check or money order made payable to the mailer. The USPS forwards the check or money order to the mailer. The Postal Service cannot intervene in disputes between mailers and recipients of COD mail after payment was returned to the mailer. Customers may obtain a delivery record by purchasing return receipt (5.0). Bulk proof of delivery service (6.0) is also available if purchasing electronic return receipt service at the time of mailing. A mailer must use a unique COD number for each article mailed.

12.2.2 Eligible Matter

[Revise the introductory text of 12.2.2 as follows:]

COD service may be used for Priority Mail Express (next day and second day service only), Priority Mail (except Critical Mail), First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service, Standard Post, and Package Services or Parcel Select (except Parcel Select Lightweight) mailpieces if:
* * *

12.2.3 Additional Services

[Revise 12.2.3 as follows:]

COD service may be used with Hold For Pick Up service under 508.7, and may also be combined with the following services when the additional service fees are paid:
a. Restricted delivery.
b. Return receipt.
c. USPS Tracking (except with Priority Mail Express COD).
d. Registered Mail.
e. Signature Confirmation (except with Priority Mail Express COD).
f. Special handling.

12.2.4 Registered COD Mail

[Revise 12.2.4 by deleting the current last two sentences and inserting a new last sentence as follows:]

* * * The label and form must be affixed according to 12.4.1

12.2.5 Priority Mail Express COD

[Revise 12.2.5 as follows:]

Any article sent COD also may be sent by Priority Mail Express (next day and second day) when a delivery signature is requested. The maximum amount collectible from the addressee and the indemnity for an individual article is limited to $1,000.00. Priority Mail Express postage and the COD fees must be paid. The label and form must be affixed according to 12.4.1.

12.2.7 Redirecting COD Articles

[Revise 12.2.7 as follows:]

The mailer of a COD article may use USPS Package Intercept service under 507.5.0 to redirect the article to a new addressee at a designated Post Office using Hold For Pickup service.

12.3 Forms

12.3.1 Form 3816

[Revise 12.3.1 as follows:]

Mailers must complete barcoded Form 3816 (see Exhibit 12.3.1) or Form 3816–AS (see 12.3.2) and attach it above the delivery address and to the right of the return address, or to the left of the delivery address on parcels.

12.3.2 Privately Printed Form 3816–AS

[Revise 12.3.2 as follows:]

If authorized, a mailer may use a privately printed Form 3816–AS in a 3-ply or 5-ply format. If Form 3816–AS does not provide detachable second and third copies, use Form 3877 under 12.4.4. The privately printed form must be nearly identical in text, design, and color to postal Form 3816, with a COD article number that can be read by automated postal equipment and an Intelligent Mail package barcode (IMpb) prepared under 708.5.0. As stated in Publication 199, available at http://ribs.usps.gov/, mailers must provide pre-production barcoded COD labels to the National Customer Service Center (NCSC) for review and approval prior to use.

12.3.3 Nursery Stock

[Revise 12.3.3 as follows:]

A firm that mails nursery stock may use Form 3816–AS (see 12.3.2) and include instructions for disposing of shipments not delivered immediately under the following conditions:
a. The firm’s instructions on the back of the delivery office part of the COD form (1), and on the remittance coupon (2), should read as follows:
   1. “If recipient refuses to pay charges for any reason, deliver at once without collecting the charges. If parcel is not deliverable or not claimed by the addressee after 10 days, destroy parcel. See remittance coupon for further instructions.”
   2. “Return this coupon with money order. If parcel is delivered without collection of charges, or is destroyed after 10 days, check disposition and send coupon to sender in penalty envelope.”
   Delivered to addressee without collecting charges. Destroyed after 10 days.
12.4 Mailing

12.4.1 Identifying Number

COD articles are identified by a number on each section of the COD form. When COD is used with Priority Mail Express, Registered Mail, Hold For Pickup service or, a separate barcoded shipping label, the mailer must place both the label and the COD form on the front of the article. The Priority Mail Express article number or the Registered Mail number is used for delivery receipt and indemnity claims. When a separate Hold For Pickup or barcoded shipping label is used, the identifying tracking numbers on the label and the COD form must match.

12.4.2 Completing COD Forms

The mailer must securely affix the COD form to each COD article. The form must show article number, names and addresses of mailer and recipient, amount due mailer, and amount of money order fee. This required information must be handwritten with ink, typewritten, or computer-printed. The mailer may not stipulate “Cash Only” on the COD form. The USPS is not responsible for errors that a mailer makes in stating the charges to be collected.

12.4.3 Addressing Forms

The addressee (or addressee’s representative) may obtain the sender’s name and address and may look at the mailpiece while held by the USPS employee before accepting delivery and endorsing the delivery receipt. * * * * *

12.4.4 Receipt

A mailer using Form 3816 receives a section of this form as a receipt. If three or more COD articles are presented for mailing at one time, the mailer may use Form 3877 (firm sheet) or privately printed firm sheets in conjunction with Form 3816. When a mailer uses a Form 3816–AS that does not provide detachable second and third copies, Form 3877 also must be used. Privately printed or computer-generated firm sheets that contain the same information as Form 3877 may be approved by the local postmaster or manager, business mail entry. Mailers may omit columns from Form 3877 that do not apply to COD mail. The mailer must submit firm sheets in duplicate and will receive one copy of the postmarked form as a mailing receipt (in lieu of Copy 3 of Form 3816 or Form 3816–AS) after the entries are verified by the accepting postal employee. The acceptance Post Office will retain the second copy. All entries on Form 3877 or privately-printed firm sheets must be made by typewriter, printed in ink, or computer-generated. Alterations must be initialed by the mailer and accepting employee. All unused portions of the addressee column must be obliterated with a diagonal line.

12.5 Delivery

Delivery of COD mail is subject to 508.1.0 and 508.2.0. Except for Priority Mail Express COD, a postmaster may restrict delivery of COD mail if the amount to be collected makes the carrier a potential target for theft or if it is known that the addressee will be unavailable to receive the article at the time of delivery. If payment is by the recipient’s check or a money order made payable to the mailer, the recipient must present adequate identification. If payment is made by cash, a money order fee is collected from the recipient in addition to the COD amount.

1.1 Basic Recipient Concerns

* * * * *

1.0 Treatment of Mail

* * * * *

1.8 Returning Mail

* * * * *

1.8.5 Extra Services

* * * * *

4.0 Address Correction Services

* * * * *

4.3 Sender Instructions

* * * * *

4.3.2 Extra Services

[Revise the complete text of 4.3.2 as follows:] A change-of-address order covers Certified Mail, COD, insured, Registered Mail, Signature Confirmation, Adult Signature services, and return receipt for merchandise mail unless the sender gives other instructions or the addressee moves outside the United States. This mail is treated as follows:

a. COD mail is not forwarded to overseas military Post Offices.

b. Ordinary and insured parcels marked on the envelope or wrapper with the mailer’s instructions are treated following instructions, such as: “Do not forward or return. If not accepted within ___ days, treat as abandoned. Notify mailer of disposition.”

c. COD mail will be handled as requested when marked under 503.12.

* * * * *

508 Recipient Services

1.0 Recipient Options

* * * * *

1.1.7 Priority Mail Express and Accountable Mail

[Revise the introductory text of 1.1.7 as follows:] The following conditions also apply to the delivery of Priority Mail Express and other accountable mail (Registered Mail, Certified Mail, insured for more than $200.00, COD, or Adult Signature services as well as mail with return receipt service, return receipt for merchandise service, or restricted delivery service:

* * * * *

a. The addressee (or addressee’s representative) may obtain the sender’s name and address and may look at the mailpiece while held by the USPS employee before accepting delivery and endorsing the delivery receipt.

* * * * *

b. Suitable identification may be required of the recipient before delivery of the mailpiece.

* * * * *
7.2 Basic Eligibility

[Revise the text of 7.2.2 as follows:]
Hold For Pickup service is available with Priority Mail Express. It is also available with commercial mailings of Priority Mail (except Critical Mail), First-Class Package Service parcels, and Parcel Select Nonpresort parcels when:

a. Mailpieces bear the Hold For Pickup label (additional labeling standards under 503.12 apply when combined with COD service).
b. Mailpieces bear an Intelligent Mail package barcode meeting the standards in 708.5.0.
c. One of the extra services in 7.2.6 is combined with Hold For Pickup service.

7.2.6 Extra Services

[Revise the introductory text of 7.2.6 as follows:]
Hold For Pickup service, except when used with Priority Mail Express, must be combined with one or more of the following:

a. Collect on Delivery (COD).

7.3 Preparation Definitions and Instructions

Except for Priority Mail Express Hold For Pickup presented at retail Post Office locations, mailers or their agents must prepare mailpieces bearing the “Hold For Pickup” label as follows:

a. Exchange electronic files with USPS through an approved file transfer protocol to notify the addressee when a parcel is available for pickup or to notify the mailer or agent that items are available to be picked up as “return to sender.”

b. In addition to the markings defined in 7.0, address labels on a Hold For Pickup mailpiece must contain the elements below:

7.0 Hold For Pickup

7.2 Basic Information

7.2.1 Description

[Revise the text of 7.2.1 as follows:]
Hold For Pickup service allows eligible mailpieces to be held at a designated Post Office for pick up by an addressee or designee. When the mailer has provided contact information to the destination Post Office, the customer is notified by email that a package is available for pickup. This service provides the shipper with the date and time of delivery to the addressee. If the item has not been picked up within 5 days, the Post Office will make a second attempt to notify the addressee. The item will be returned to the sender if not picked up within 15 days.

7.2.2 Basic Eligibility

[Revise the text of 7.2.2 as follows:]
Hold For Pickup service is available with Priority Mail Express. It is also available with commercial mailings of
Domestic Claims, Accounting Services

and mailing it to

completing a PS Form 1000,

Proof of value is required and should be

insurance, and Priority Mail Express.

mail, COD, Registered Mail with postal

www.usps.com/

of 1.5.1 as follows:

1.5.1 Claims Filed Online

1.5 Where and How to File

1.5.1 Claims Filed Online

Indemnity claims should be filed online (preferred) at www.usps.com/domestic-claims for domestic insured mail, COD, Registered Mail with postal insurance, and Priority Mail Express. Proof of value is required and should be submitted as an uploaded file (.pdf or .jpeg). * * *

1.5.2 Claims Filed by Mail

Customers also may file a claim by completing a PS Form 1000, Domestic or International Claim, and mailing it to Domestic Claims, Accounting Services (see 608.8.0.) Proof of value must accompany the PS Form 1000. For pieces with multiple extra services, the customer must provide original receipts for all services purchased. Upon request by the USPS, the customer must submit proof of damage under 2.1 for damaged items or missing contents.

1.6 When to File

File claims as follows:

[Revise the chart in 1.4 as follows:]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mail type or service</th>
<th>When to file (from mailing date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No sooner than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Mail Express</td>
<td>7 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Mail Express COD</td>
<td>15 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Mail</td>
<td>15 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Mail COD</td>
<td>15 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insured Mail (including Priority Mail under 3.2)</td>
<td>15 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COD</td>
<td>15 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APO/FPO Insured Mail (First-Class Mail, SAM, or PAL)</td>
<td>45 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APO/FPO Insured Mail (Surface only)</td>
<td>75 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Delete item 1.5, Where to File, in its entirety and renumber current 1.6 and 1.7 as new item 1.5 and 1.6, then revise the title of renumbered 1.5 as follows:]
the addressee and the proper label showing that the article was sent insured, COD, Registered Mail with postal insurance, or Priority Mail Express. (If only the outer packaging is submitted, indemnity can be limited to $100 for insured, $50 for COD, $100 for Registered Mail, and $100 for Priority Mail Express.)

c. For Priority Mail Express items accepted under a Priority Mail Express Manifesting agreement in 705.2.0, a copy of the manifest page showing the Priority Mail Express label number for the item; the manifest summary page for the mailing date of the piece; a copy of Form 3152–E round-dated by the accepting Post Office; and a copy of the USPSCA monthly statement that lists the label number and postage for the mailpiece. If the customer purchased additional insurance, a copy of the round-stamped Form 3877 also must be submitted.

d. For insurance purchased online, a printed electronic online label record or a computer printout from the application used to print the label and purchase the insurance. The printout must identify the USPS Tracking number of the insured parcel, total postage paid, insurance fee paid, declared value, mailing date, origin ZIP Code, and delivery ZIP Code.

e. For insured mail or COD mail paid using MMS or eVS under 705.2, the mailer must use one of the following:

1. A Detail Record in their Shipping Services file version 1.6 or higher, with recipient name and address information for the accountable extra services pieces in the mailing.

2. A printout of the part of Form 3877 that identifies the parcel by article number, the package identification code (PIC) of the insured or COD parcel, total postage paid, fee paid, declared insured value, amount due sender if COD, mailing date, origin ZIP Code, and delivery ZIP Code reported in the parcel record in the manifest file.

[Revise the title and introductory text of 3.2 as follows:]

3.2 Proof of Value

Either the mailer or the addressee must submit acceptable proof to establish the cost or value of the article at the time it was mailed. Proof of value should be submitted electronically or attached to the claim form under 1.6; otherwise, the claim cannot be processed. Other proof may be requested to help determine an accurate value. Examples are:

* * * * *

[Revise item 3.2b as follows:]

b. For items valued up to $50, the customer’s statement describing the lost or damaged article and including the date and place of purchase, the amount paid, and whether the item was new or used (if a receipt or invoice is not available).

* * * * *

[Revise item 3.2g as follows:]

g. A copy of a credit card statement or other documentation indicating the amount paid.

4.0 Claims

4.1 Payable Claim

[Revise the introductory sentence of 4.1 as follows:]

Insurance for loss or damage to insured, COD, or Registered Mail within the amount covered by the fee paid or the indemnity limits for Priority Mail Express (under 4.2) is payable for the following:

* * * * *

[Revise item 4.1g as follows:]

g. For stamps and coins of philatelic or numismatic value; the fair market value is determined by a recognized stamp or coin dealer or current coin and stamp collectors’ newsletters and trade papers. The date of the fair market value determination must be current and prior to the mailing date.

* * * * *

[Insert new items 4.1p and 4.1q as follows:]

p. For firearms mailed by licensed firearm dealers under 601.12, a Form 1508 must be submitted with the claim.

q. For collectible items, a sales receipt, invoice or bill of sale, or statement of value from a reputable dealer must be provided as described in 3.2.a.

4.2 Payable Priority Mail Express Claim

[Revise the introductory text of 4.2 and the introductory text of item 4.2a as follows:]

In addition to the payable claims in 4.1, the following are payable for Priority Mail Express mailpieces:

a. Nonnegotiable documents are insured against loss, damage, or loss of some contents while in transit. Coverage is limited to $100 per mailpiece, subject to a maximum limit per occurrence as provided in 4.2a4. Claims for document reconstruction insurance must be supported by a statement of expense incurred in reconstruction. Nonnegotiable documents include audit and business records, commercial papers, and other written instruments that cannot be negotiable or cannot be converted into cash without forgery. Articles such as artwork, collector or antique items, books, pamphlets, readers’ proofs, repro proofs, separation negatives, engineering drawings, blueprints, circulars, advertisements, film, negatives, and photographs are considered merchandise, not documents. Indemnity for document reconstruction is paid as follows:

* * * * *

4.3 Nonpayable Claims

Indemnity is not paid for insured mail, Registered Mail, COD, or Priority Mail Express in these situations:

* * * * *

[Revise item 4.3f as follows:]

f. Loss resulting from delay of the mail, except under 4.2a2 and 4.3ad below.

* * * * *

[Revise item 4.3k as follows:]

k. Death of honeybees, crickets, and harmless live animals not the fault of the USPS (mailability is subject to 601.90).

* * * * *

[Revise item 4.3r as follows:]

r. Consequential loss of Priority Mail Express, except under 4.2a3 and 4.3ad.

* * * * *

[Revise item 4.3aa as follows:]

aa. Lottery tickets, sweepstakes tickets, contest entries, gift cards and similar items.

* * * * *

6.0 Adjudication of Claims

* * * * *

6.2 Appealing a Claim Decision

[Revise the text of 6.2 as follows:]

A customer may appeal a claim decision within 30 days from the date of the original decision at www.usps.com/insuranceclaims/online. Customers without internet access must send written appeals to Accounting Services (see 608.8.0 for address).

6.3 Final USPS Decision of Claims

[Revise the text of 6.3 as follows:]

If Accounting Services sustains the denial of a claim, the customer may submit an additional appeal within 30 days for final review and decision to the Consumer Advocate (see 608.8.0 for address).

700 Special Standards

* * * * *

705 Advanced Preparation and Special Postage Payment Systems

* * * * *

8.0 Preparing Pallets

* * * * *

8.5 General Preparation

* * * * *
8.5.6 Mail on Pallets

These standards apply to mail on pallets:

* * * * *

[Revise item 8.5.6h as follows:]

b. Heavier, fuller trays must be placed at the bottom of the load, unless
excepted by other standards (such as 245.7.7) that may require placement on
the top of the pallet.

* * * * *

14.0 Combining Bundles of Flats on
Pallets within FSS Zones

14.1 General

[Revise the introductory paragraph of 14.1 as follows:]

Presorted and basic carrier route
Standard Mail flats, and all Bound
Printed Matter (BPM) presorted and
carrier route flats and Periodicals flats
meeting the standards in 301.3.2, must
be consolidated into 5-digit FSS scheme
bundles and placed on pallets, in sacks,
or in approved alternate containers, for
5-digit FSS scheme ZIP Code
combinations within the same facility.
Mailings that include 10 or more pieces
of Standard Mail flats, 6 or more pieces
of Periodicals flats or 10 or more pieces
(or 10 or more pounds) of BPM flats to
a FSS scheme, must include FSS
scheme bundles for that 5-digit FSS
scheme. Mailers may optionally prepare
scheme pools with less than those
minimums and may prepare a FSS
scheme bundle if there is a minimum of
3 inches per bundle. Mailings of
nonpresorted BPM flats may be
included in FSS preparation, but will
not be eligible for presorted or carrier
route prices. When possible, the Postal
Service also recommends the use of flat
trays in lieu of sacks for FSS bundles.
Bundles of flats prepared to FSS zones
may also be combined with flats not
intended for FSS processing when
prepared to less finely presorted
containers in accordance with these
standards and the standards in 8.0.
Mailers must place qualifying
mailpieces from all price categories into
a separate combined pool for each
individual 5-digit FSS-scheme
combination, and then prepare bundles
of uniform size from those pieces.
Mailpieces that meet the eligibility
standards for 5-digit prices, basic and
high density carrier route prices, or
BPM presort or carrier route prices will
continue to be eligible for these prices
when prepared in accordance with the
FSS preparation standards. Saturation
price Standard Mail and Periodicals
flats are not eligible for preparation
under this option. High Density and
High-Density Plus Standard Mail flats
that meet the physical requirements in
301.3 may be included when prepared
in accordance with these standards.
Mailpieces and bundles must also be
prepared as follows:

[Revise 14.1a and b as follows:]

a. Bundles for all FSS sort plans must
be identified as a 5-digit scheme presort
with an optional endorsement line
under 708.7.0; or when authorized,
using a red Label 5 SCH barcoded
pressure-sensitive bundle label.

b. It is recommended that all Standard
Mail and Periodicals pieces placed into
an FSS pool be barcoded to an
accurate delivery point Intelligent Mail
barcode with an accurate 11-digit
routing code.

* * * * *

[Revise 14.1j as follows:]

j. A FSS sort plan pallet, or alternate
approved container, must be made
when 250 pounds or more of bundles
are available for an individual FSS 5-
digit scheme. Bundles remaining after
palletization may be placed in sacks (or
flat trays if approved).

* * * * *

14.2 Periodicals

14.2.1 Basic Standards

[Revise the introductory paragraph of 14.2.1 as follows:]

Except for Periodicals flats mailed at
In-County prices, Periodicals flats
mailings of 5,000 pieces or less mailed
at Outside-County prices, or otherwise
exempted Periodicals flats mailings, all
Periodicals flats meeting the standards
in 301.3.2 (nonmachinable flats up to 1-
inch thick may be included if they meet
the standards in 705.14) and
destinating to FSS zones as shown in L006, must be
prepared according to these standards.
Mailings of In-County Periodicals flats
and Outside-County Periodicals flats
mailings of 5,000 pieces or less may also be
prepared according to these
standards. Periodicals are subject to the
following:

* * * * *

[Revise 14.2.1a and 14.2.1b as follows:]

a. Pricing eligibility is based on
707.11.0 through 707.14.0, except that
the 5-digit Outside-County bundle
charge will be assessed to bundles of
Outside-County Periodicals prepared in
accordance with these standards,
including bundles of flats claimed at
the carrier route price. All Periodicals
flats prepared under these standards
will be assessed the 3-digit bundle price
without regard to the piece prices
claimed. FSS bundles placed on FSS
scheme or FSS facility pallets, sacks or
trays will claim the 3-digit bundle price.

b. FSS 5-digit Scheme pallets will be
assessed the Outside-County container
charge for the 3-digit level pallet, except
that there is no container charge for FSS
5-digit scheme pallets entered at a DFSS
facility. FSS facility sort level pallets
will be charged a container price for the
SCF pallet. FSS scheme sacks or trays
will continue to be assessed the 3-digit
price. Sacks and trays entered at a DFSS
will claim the DSCF entry price.

[Redesignate current 14.2.1c through f as new 14.2.1d through g, and add new
item 14.2.1c to read as follows:]

c. The Outside-County pound price
will be the same as the DSCF price. The
Inside-County price will claim prices for
the “none” entry level.

* * * * *

[Revise redesignated items 14.2.1e, f and g as follows:]

e. Mailers must combine all 5-digit,
carrier route, and 5-digit scheme eligible
flat-size mailpieces into a combined
mailpiece pool for each FSS 5-digit
scheme combination according to L006.

f. Each bundle must be identified with
a “SCH 5-DIGIT FSS” optional
derivation line in accordance with
Exhibit 708.7.1.1; or when authorized,
using a red Label 5 SCH barcoded
pressure-sensitive bundle label.

g. All pooled Periodicals mailpieces
prepared on pallets to a single presort
destination must be prepared in uniform
size bundles, between 3 inches and 6.5
inches in height and secured under
601.2.0, except that one overflow
bundle per mailpiece pool may be under
the minimum size.

* * * * *

14.2.2 Pallet Preparation and Labeling

* * * Preparation sequence and
labeling:

* * * * *

[Revise the introductory text of
14.2.2b as follows:]

b. FSS facility sort, optional, no
minimum, permitted only for FSS
bundling prepared for the FSS sort plans
processed within the same SCF as
shown in L006.

* * * * *

14.2.3 Sack Preparation and Labeling

* * * Preparation and labeling:

* * * * *

[Revise the introductory text of
14.2.3b as follows:]

b. FSS facility sort, optional, permitted
only for 5-digit FSS bundles
prepared for the FSS sort plans
processed within the same facility as
shown in L006.
14.3 Standard Mail

14.3.1 Basic Standards

* * * Standard Mail flats are subject to the following:

[Revise 14.3.1a and d as follows:]

c. Mailers must combine all eligible flat-size mailpieces into a combined mailpiece pool for each FSS 5-digit scheme combination according to L006.

d. Each bundle must be identified with a “SCH 5–DIGIT FSS” optional endorsement line in accordance with Exhibit 708.7.1.1; or when authorized, using a red Label 5 SCH barcoded pressure-sensitive bundle label.

* * * * *

14.3.2 Pallet Preparation and Labeling

* * * Preparation sequence and labeling:

[Revise the introductory text of 14.3.2a as follows:]

a. FSS sort plan, required (optional under 250 pounds), no minimum, permitted only for FSS bundles prepared for a single FSS sort plan as shown in L006. Labeling:

* * * * *

[Revise the introductory text of 14.3.2b as follows:]

b. FSS facility sort, optional, no minimum, permitted only for FSS bundles prepared for the FSS sort plans processed within the same facility as shown in L006. Labeling:

* * * * *

14.3.3 Sack Preparation and Labeling

* * * Preparation and labeling:

[Revise the introductory text of 14.3.3b as follows:]

b. FSS facility sort, optional, permitted only for 5-digit FSS bundles prepared for the FSS sort plans processed within the same facility as shown in L006.

* * * * *

14.4 Bound Printed Matter

14.4.1 Basic Standards

[Revise the introductory text of 14.4.1 as follows:]

Bound Printed Matter (BPM) flats eligible for, and paid at, presorted prices or carrier route prices, and that meet the standards in 301.3.2, must be combined in 5-digit FSS scheme bundles and placed on pallets, or in flat trays, sacks or approved alternate containers, for delivery to ZIP Codes having FSS processing capability, as shown in L006. BPM flats are subject to the following:

* * * * *

14.4.2 Pallet Preparation and Labeling

* * * Preparation sequence and labeling:

[Revise the first sentence of the introductory text of 14.4.2b as follows:]

b. FSS facility sort, optional, no minimum; permitted only for FSS bundles prepared for the FSS sort plans processed within the same facility as shown in L006.

* * * * *

14.4.3 Sack Preparation and Labeling

* * * Preparation and labeling:

[Revise the introductory text of 14.4.3b as follows:]

b. FSS facility sort, optional, permitted only for 5-digit FSS bundles prepared for the FSS sort plans processed within the same facility as shown in L006.

* * * * *

15.0 Combining Standard Mail Flats and Periodicals Flats

15.1 Basic Standards

* * *

[Revise the title and introductory text of 15.1.11 as follows:]

15.1.11 Preparation for FSS Zones

Mailers authorized to combine mailings of Standard Mail flats and Periodicals flats must prepare these mailings under 14.0, when the mailing includes pieces destined within one or more of the FSS zones in L006. Mailpieces eligible for High Density and High-Density Plus prices are not required to, but may be, prepared under the standards in 14.0. The following applies:

[Delete current items 15.1.11a through c in their entirety and resequence current items 15.11.1d through f as new items 15.11.1a through 1c.]

707 Periodicals

* * * * *

4.0 Basic Eligibility Standards

* * * * *
nominal prices do not qualify for the general publications category.

Delete items 6.1.2g1 through 6.1.2g4 in their entirety; the same substantive information is included in items 6.1.2a through 6.1.2f.

6.4 Requester Publications

6.4.2 Circulation Standards

Requester publications must meet these circulation standards:

Revise item 6.4.2b as follows:

b. Subscription copies of the publications that are paid for or promised to be paid for, including those at or below a nominal price, may be included in the 50% request requirement. (For inclusion of electronic copies, see 6.5.)

Revise items 6.4.2d through 6.4.2f as follows:

d. Records of requests for a publication must be kept so that subscriptions or requests for each publication can be verified.

e. Requests that are more than 3 years old are not valid requests. Copies addressed using an alternative address format are not considered requested copies.

f. For a requester publication issued by a membership organization, the organization may adopt a resolution that each member receives a copy of each issue. Records must be kept to show that the publication is sent to members. Form 3500 must be accompanied by a copy of the resolution and the written assurance that the required records are kept.

6.7 News Agent Registry

6.7.1 Definition

Revise the text of 6.7.1 by including text from current 6.7.2 as follows:

The term news agent means a person or concern selling two or more Periodicals publications published by more than one publisher. A news agent must be authorized by the USPS before the agent may mail publications at Periodicals prices.

Delete current 6.7.2, Authorization; text is relocated to 6.7.1.

Renumber current 6.7.3 through 6.7.5 as new 6.7.2 through 6.7.4.

6.7.3 Unsold Copies

Revise the text of renumbered 6.7.3 as follows:

Unsold copies returned to the publishers or sent to other news agents or sent to persons not having subscriptions with news agents, are subject to the Outside-County Periodicals prices.

7.0 Mailing to Nonsubscribers or Nonrequesters

7.1 Sample Copies

Revise the text of 7.1 as follows:

Sample copies are nonsubscriber or nonrequester copies and may be mailed at prices according to standards in 7.0 and 10.0.

7.2 Simplified Address

Revise the text of 7.2 as follows:

Copies addressed with simplified addresses under 602.3.2 may be mailed only to nonsubscribers or nonrequesters. If a subscriber or requester receives a simplified address copy in addition to the subscriber or requester copy, the additional copy is considered a nonsubscriber or nonrequester copy.

7.4 Gift Subscriptions

Revise the text of 7.4 as follows:

Copies sent to persons whose subscriptions were paid by other individuals as gifts are considered subscriber copies. Subscriptions paid by advertisers or other persons promoting their own interests and subscriptions given free by the publisher, are not gift subscriptions, and are considered nonsubscriber or nonrequester copies.

7.5 Exchange Copies

Revise the text of 7.5 as follows:

A small part of the distribution list may contain publishers to whom one copy each is sent in exchange for a copy of the recipients’ publications. These exchange copies are considered subscriber or requester copies.

7.7 Complimentary Copies

Revise the text of 7.7 as follows:

All complimentary copies are considered nonsubscriber or nonrequester copies.

7.8 Proof Copies

Revise the text of 7.8 as follows:

One complete copy of each issue may be mailed to each advertiser (or agent) in the issue to prove that the advertisements are printed. These copies are considered subscriber or requester copies. Any additional copies sent to an advertiser (or agent) are considered nonsubscriber or nonrequester copies.

9.0 Changing Title, Frequency, or Known Office of Publication

9.1 General

9.1.1 When Required

Revise the text of 9.1.1 as follows:

Except under 9.1.2, the publisher must file an application for reentry on Form 3510 to the original entry postmaster to change the title, frequency of issue; or to change location of the known office of publication of an authorized Periodicals publication by submitting Form 3510 to the postmaster whose service area oversees the new location.

Delete current 9.1.3, Where to File, in its entirety (text moved to 9.1.1).

Renumber current 9.1.4 through 9.1.4 as new 9.1.3 through 9.1.4.

Delete current 9.1.6, Same County, in its entirety; the same information appears in 707.11.3.

Renumber current 9.1.7 as new 9.1.5 and revise as follows:

9.1.5 Filing Date

Publishers changing the title or frequency of a publication must file Form 3510 by the date on which copies are to be issued with the new title or on the new frequency.

Delete current 9.1.8, Current Date, in its entirety; the same information is in current 9.3.5.

Renumber current 9.1.9 through 9.1.12 as new 9.1.6 through 9.1.9.

9.1.7 Application Fee

Revise the text of renumbered 9.1.7 as follows:

The correct (nonrefundable) fee must accompany an application (Form 3510) for reentry. No additional fee is required when a revised Form 3500 is required as part of a reentry application.

9.1.8 Multiple Reentry Requests

Revise the text of renumbered 9.1.8 as follows:

A publisher may file one Form 3510 and pay one fee to request multiple reentry actions under 9.1 if all documentation is submitted with the Form 3510 under 9.1.3; and the effective dates for the reentry actions do not cover more than 30 calendar days. The publisher must submit a separate Form 3510 (and pay the fee) for each reentry action that cannot meet these conditions.

9.1.9 Other Actions

Revise the text of renumbered 9.1.9 as follows:

A publisher must submit a separate Form 3510 (and pay the fee) for each
reentry action under 28.4, 30.0, 10.0 (no fee), or 9.2. A publisher must file a separate Form 3510 and pay the fee if the publication’s distribution plan is modified other than the frequency of issuance or the location of the original entry Post Office.

9.2 Changing Qualification Categories

[Revise the text of 9.2 as follows:]

To change the category under which a publication is authorized Periodicals mailing privileges, the publisher must file a revised Form 3500 and an application for reentry on Form 3510 with the original entry postmaster and pay the applicable fee. See 9.1.2 for when a reentry application may not be required.

[Delete current 9.2.1, 9.2.2, 9.2.3, and 9.2.4 in their entirety (the text of 9.2.1, 9.2.3, and 9.2.4 are merged into new text in 9.2; the text of 9.2.2 is already covered in current 9.1.2).]

9.3 Application for Reentry

9.3.1 Pending

While an application for reentry is pending, copies of an authorized Periodicals publication are accepted for mailing at the Periodicals prices, subject to 9.3.5.

[Delete current 9.3.2, Additional Information, in its entirety; the same information is in current 9.3.3.]

[Renumber current 9.3.3 through 9.3.5 as new 9.3.2 through 9.3.4, and revise the text of renumbered 9.3.2 as follows:]

9.3.2 Proof of Compliance

The publisher must be able to show (via circulation and other records) to USPS satisfaction that the reentered publication still meets all Periodicals standards. Failure to provide this evidence is sufficient grounds to deny the reentry request.

* * * * *

9.3.4 Effective Date

[Revise the text of renumbered 9.3.4 as follows:]

An entry office may not be used before authorization by the USPS. A publisher may not pay postage at another price to deposit copies at an unauthorized entry office. Subject to the restrictions in 9.1, the effective date of a reentry authorization is the reentry request.

[Delete current 9.3.6, Denial After Verification, in its entirety; the same information is in current 9.3.7.]

[Renumber current 9.3.7 through 9.3.12 as new 9.3.5 through 9.3.10.]

[Revise the title and text of renumbered 9.3.5 as follows:]

9.3.5 Denial

If the PCSC manager denies an application, a written notice of the reasons is provided to the publisher. The denial takes effect 15 days from the publisher’s receipt of the notice, unless the publisher files an appeal under 9.3.6 within that time. Alternatively, the publisher may return to the publication status before the application for reentry was submitted.

* * * * *

12.0 Nonbarcoded (Presorted) Eligibility

12.1 Basic Standards

* * * * *

12.3 Prices—In-County

12.3.1 Five-Digit Prices

5-digit prices apply to:

* * * * *

[Add new item 12.3.1c as follows:]

C. Qualifying flats included in a FSS 5-digit scheme pool under 705.14.

* * * * *

12.3.2 Three-Digit Prices

3-digit prices apply to:

* * * * *

[Add new 12.3.2c as follows:]

C. Flat-size pieces not qualifying for carrier route or 5-digit prices, but properly included in a FSS 5-digit scheme pool prepared under 705.14.

* * * * *

13.0 Carrier Route Eligibility

* * * * *

13.3 Walk-Sequence Prices

13.3.1 Eligibility

[Revise the text of 13.3.1 as follows:]

The High Density or saturation prices apply to each walk-sequenced piece in a carrier route mailing, eligible under 13.2.1 and prepared under 705.8.0, 23.0, or (nonletter-size mail only) 705.10.0, 705.12.0, or 705.13.0, that also meets the corresponding addressing and density standards in 13.3.4. High density and saturation price mailings must be prepared in carrier walk sequence according to schemes prescribed by the USPS (see 23.8). Flats qualifying for High Density or High-Density Plus prices by meeting the density standards may be included in FSS 5-digit scheme pools under 705.14.

14.0 Barcoded (Automation) Eligibility

* * * * *

14.4 Prices—In-County

14.4.1 Five-Digit Prices

5-digit automation prices apply to:

* * * * *

[Add new item 14.4.1c as follows:]

C. Qualifying flats included in a FSS 5-digit scheme pool under 705.14.

* * * * *

14.4.2 Three-Digit Prices

3-digit automation prices apply to:

* * * * *

[Add 14.4.2c as follows:]

C. Flat-size pieces not qualifying for carrier route or 5-digit prices, but properly included in a FSS 5-digit scheme pool prepared under 705.14.

* * * * *

18.0 General Mail Preparation

18.1 Definition of Presort

[Revise the text of 18.1 as follows:]

“Presort” is the process by which a mailer prepares mail so that it is sorted to at least the finest extent required by the standards.

18.2 Definition of Mailings

“Mailings” are defined as:

[Revise item 18.2a as follows:]

a. A mailing is a group of pieces within the same class of mail and the same processing category that are sorted together and presented under a minimum volume mailing requirement. Specific standards may define whether separate mailings may be combined, palletized, reported, or deposited together.

* * * * *

[Add a new 18.5 as follows:]

18.5 FSS Preparation

Except for Periodicals flats mailed at In-County prices, Periodicals flats mailings of 5,000 pieces or less mailed at Outside-County prices, Periodicals flats mailed at saturation, High Density or High-Density Plus prices, or otherwise excepted Periodicals flats mailings, all Periodicals flats (including nonmachinable flats up to 1-inch thick may be included if they meet the standards in 705.14) destined to FSS zones as shown in L006, must be prepared under 705.14. Mailings of in-county Periodicals flats, outside-county Periodicals flats mailings of 5,000 pieces or less, and Periodicals qualifying for
High-Density and High-Density Plus may be included in FSS 5-digit scheme pools.

29.0 Destination Entry

29.4 Destination Sectional Center Facility

29.4.2 Price Eligibility

Determine price eligibility as follows:

[Delete the last sentence of the introductory text of 29.4.2b, and delete 29.4.2b1 and b2 in their entirety.]

[Renumber current 29.5. as new 29.6, and add a new 29.5 as follows:]

29.5. Destination Flat Sequencing System (DFSS) Facility Entry

29.5.1 Definition

For this standard, destination Flat Sequencing System Facility (DFSS) refers to the facilities listed in L006, Column C.

29.5.2 Eligibility

DFSS prices apply to pieces deposited at a USPS-designated FSS processing facility and correctly placed in a flat tray, sack, or on a pallet, labeled to a FSS sort plan or labeled to a 5-digit destination processed by that facility, under labeling list L006. These pieces must include a full delivery address and meet the physical standards for FSS-machinability in 705.14.0.

708 Technical Specifications

6.0 Standards for Barcoded Tray Labels, Sack Labels, and Container Placards

6.2 Specifications for Barcoded Tray and Sack Labels

6.2.1 Use

Exhibit 6.2.1 shows the types of mail requiring barcoded tray or sack labels. Barcoded labels must meet these general standards:

[Revise the text of item 6.2.1b as follows:]

b. Mailer-produced barcoded labels must meet the standards in 6.0, and must be non-adhesive.

We will publish an appropriate amendment to 39 CFR part 111 to reflect these changes if our proposal is adopted.

Stanley F. Mires, Attorney, Legal Policy & Legislative Advice.

[FR Doc. 2013–24980 Filed 10–24–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[40 CFR Part 52]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Revisions to Rules and Regulations for Control of Air Pollution; Permitting of Grandfathered Facilities

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The EPA is proposing to approve revisions of the Texas State Implementation Plan submitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ, or Commission) on July 31, 2002; September 4, 2002; and March 1, 2004. These revisions require that all grandfathered facilities obtain specific permits which include emission control methods to achieve mandated emission reductions, as required, or shutdown; and require that emissions from dockside vessels which result from operations at grandfathered land-based facilities be included in specific permits. The revisions also outline additional permitting procedures for certain grandfathered pipeline equipment located in an ozone nonattainment area. These permitting requirements and emissions reductions will contribute to achieving attainment and help ensure attainment and continued maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone in the State of Texas. EPA is proposing the revisions under section 110, part C, and part D of the Act, and EPA’s regulations.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before November 25, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket No. EPA–R06–OAR–2011–0202, by one of the following methods:


– Email: Mr. Rick Barrett at: barrett.richard@epa.gov. Please also send a copy of your comment, along with any disk or CD–ROM submitted. If EPA cannot read information in the body of your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

• Mail or delivery: Mr. Rick Barrett, Air Permits Section (6PD–R), Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202–2733.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA–R06–OAR–2011–0202. EPA’s policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information the disclosure of which is restricted by statute. Do not submit information through http://www.regulations.gov or email, if you believe that it is CBI or otherwise protected from disclosure. The http://www.regulations.gov Web site is an “anonymous access” system, which means that EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an email comment directly to EPA without going through http://www.regulations.gov, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment along with any disk or CD–ROM submitted. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption and should be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about EPA’s public docket, visit the EPA Docket Center homepage at http://www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm.

Docket: The index to the docket for this action is available electronically at www.regulations.gov and in hard copy at EPA Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas. While all documents in the docket are listed in the index, some information may be publicly available only at the hard copy location (e.g., copyrighted material), and some may not be publicly available at either location (e.g., CBI). To inspect the hard copy materials, please schedule an appointment with the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Rick Barrett (6PD–R), Air Permits...