

United States Postal Service®

INDUSTRYALERT

September 2018

Mail Spoken Here

The electronic newsletter from the Industry Engagement & Outreach team summarizing recent USPS news and developments

Board leadership - Elections held for chairman, vice chairman

Robert M. Duncan, left, and David C. Williams are chairman and vice chairman, respectively, of the USPS Board of Governors.

Robert M. Duncan and David C. Williams have been elected chairman and vice chairman, respectively, of the USPS Board of Governors.

The elections occurred Sept. 13 during an open meeting of the board's temporary emergency committee (TEC). Also, Williams was appointed chairman, and Duncan, vice chairman, of the TEC.



Both Duncan and Williams were recently *confirmed* as governors by the U.S. Senate following their nomination by President Trump.

The USPS Board of Governors acts much like a board of directors, conducting long-range planning and setting strategic policies, among other duties. Under current law, the board is intended to be comprised of nine governors and the Postmaster General and Deputy Postmaster General.

Without a legally required quorum, the board is conducting functions necessary for continuity of operations through the TEC, which the board created in 2014.

NPF - 2019 Call for Papers is now Open!

The 2019 National Postal Forum is preparing for their annual event. What's more, you're invited.

The National Postal Forum is inviting speakers interested in sharing their unique knowledge and experiences to submit proposals for sessions and workshops for the 2019 NPF conference. They are looking for speakers to deliver an engaging educational program that showcases innovative uses of mail and packages, plus technologies that will inspire attendees to explore new **Growth Driven** business opportunities using the Postal Service. This year there are five educational workshop tracks. They are:

- **Informed Visibility®: Real Time, Real Data**
- **The Evolution of Delivery: From Mailbox to Mail "Inbox"**

- **Mail Operations: Fulfilling the Needs of Your Customers**
- **eCommerce: Steps to Shipping Success**
- **Pushing the Envelope: Why Mail Works**

If you have a workshop idea you would like us to consider, go to www.npf.org, click the Education and Networking tab, then select 2019 call for papers and complete the Workshop Presentation Form. The deadline to send in your Workshop Presentation Form online is **Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018**. NPF and USPS personnel will evaluate all submissions and let you know by mid-December if your submission(s) have been selected for the 2019 conference.

Please join the **National Postal Forum** May 5-8, 2019 in Indianapolis, IN and discover *Growth Driven* strategies that will fuel your mailing and shipping success. Take advantage of our premier industry event and participate in all the NPF has to offer, including:

- **130+ Educational Workshops**
- **Exclusive USPS Officer Led Sessions**
- **USPS Certification Courses**
- **Daily Networking Events**
- **Largest Industry Exhibit Hall**

Early Registration is now open: <https://registration.npf.org/login>



Informed Delivery Help Desk

Businesses and organizations have never had an easier time incorporating Informed Delivery® into their marketing and operations! USPS® recently refreshed materials on the [Informed Delivery for Business Mailers](#) website and expanded its support for mailers through an Informed Delivery Help Desk.

The refreshed materials on the [Informed Delivery for Business Mailers](#) website contain updated information on new functionalities, as well as easy to follow guidance on conducting Informed Delivery interactive campaigns. After reviewing these resources, mailers in need of additional guidance or experiencing issues with the product can get near real time support via the Informed Delivery Help Desk.

The Informed Delivery Help Desk was recently expanded and formalized to support the anticipated growth of participating mailers and active campaigns. Mailers can contact the Help Desk by e-mailing USPSInformedDeliveryCampaigns@usps.gov. New Informed Delivery participants can join the hundreds of businesses and organizations currently conducting Informed Delivery interactive campaigns knowing that USPS will be there to assist as needed.

USPS National Map – Weather related issues at your fingertips

The USPS has developed a National Map - an external facing Geographical Information System (GIS) map showing the location of postal facilities alongside hazards and other weather related disruptions provided by NOAA, the National Weather Service (NWS), and the Geospatial Multi-Agency Coordination

(GeoMAC).

GeoMAC is an internet-based mapping application originally designed for fire managers to access online maps of current fire locations and perimeters in the United States. Using a standard web browser, fire personnel can view this information to pinpoint the affected areas.

The map has evolved over time and USPS utilizes it to show Plant Status and DDU Status, along with current weather, watches and warnings. It can filter facilities to see active, emergency suspended or closed sites where applicable.

You also have the ability to “find a location” and enter the city or ZIP Code and select from the choices that appear. If you are unsure about the exact name, you can enter part of the name or ZIP Code and search for the location. The map is dynamic and other layers may be added or removed as appropriate.

With hurricane season in full swing, this map is a great tool to track natural disasters impacting the Postal Service.

Take a look here, you will be amazed!

<http://uspstools.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1fc1c26bb31246b39087606c65b83020>

A Joint Operation - Marines, Airmen Work Together to Deliver Mail

The Post Office for the Air Force’s 407th Air Expeditionary Group, which is currently deployed to an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, helps thousands of service members stay in touch with friends and family through the delivery of care packages and letters from home.

Three Marines and two Air Force personnel run the office.

The Marines are deployed from Camp Pendleton, CA, where they all perform postal duties at the same office, but for the airmen, working in the office is entirely new to them.

“At first it was intimidating coming to work with the Marines, but we worked to build a rapport with them,” said Air Force Staff Sgt. Desiree Tuazon, who is deployed from Beale Air Force Base in California. “We figured it’s a good opportunity for us to learn from the Marines and see how they do things.”

The office processes and sorts more than a thousand pieces of incoming mail each day. Once the mail truck arrives, the mail is sorted and distributed to airmen, Marines, sailors, civilians and others assigned to the base.

“Postal is very important to the mission, the base and the people,” said Marine Staff Sgt. Maurice Jones, who serves as the postal chief. “All these boxes and care packages help a lot of people. ... So whenever the mail shows up and they get these care packages and you see their facial expressions, they love it.”

The First State to Recognize Columbus Day

Colorado - Was the first state to officially recognize Columbus Day as a state holiday. In 1905, the Governor declared that Columbus Day was to be:

"A day upon which may be gratefully recognized the patriotic Americanism of the Colorado Italians whose

generosity prompts them to present to the state an emblem of appreciation of the services to mankind of one of their countrymen, and a material evidence of the good citizenship of those Americans who belong to the same race as he did."

Columbus Day was made an official holiday at the federal level in 1937, while the most longstanding annual celebration is the Columbus Day Parade in San Francisco, which has been thrown yearly since 1868.

Mail Entry and Business Mailer Support is hosting a series of informational sessions on EPS and the migration process
Every Tuesday 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (EST)

- When: Occurs every Tuesday 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM EST
- [Webex Link](#)
- Call-in toll-free number (US): 1-855-860-7461
- Conference Code: 887 904 5356

PostalOne! Customer Care:

- Assistance with the EPS set-up process
- Assistance with password reset, system logon, and site administrator roles

Call: 1-800-522-9085 or email: Postalone@usps.gov

You can also refer to the helpful 21 page FAQ document by copying the following into your browser:

<https://postalpro.usps.com/EPS/FAQs>

Federal Register Notices:

Published in the *Federal Register* September 24, 2018

Production or Disclosure of Material or Information (Doc # 2018-20585)

AGENCY: Postal Service.

Action: Final Rule.

Summary:

In June 2018, the Postal Service proposed to amend its Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act regulations. Most of these changes consisted of minor technical corrections. In addition to these technical changes, the Postal Service proposed changes to create a definition of "information of a commercial nature" as it pertains to the Postal Reorganization Act's provisions concerning disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act, add guidance for determining what information qualifies as commercial information under the Act, and provide specific examples. The Postal Service received three sets of comments and addresses them here.

DATES: This rule is effective as of October 24, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth B. Stevenson, Attorney, Federal Compliance, ruth.b.stevenson@usps.gov, 202-268-6627.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In June 2018, the Postal Service proposed to amend its Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act regulations. [83 FR 27933](#) (June 15, 2018). Most of these changes were minor, intended to improve clarity and make technical corrections. In addition to these technical changes, the Postal Service proposed substantive changes intended to create a definition of “information of a commercial nature” as it pertains to the Postal Reorganization Act's provisions concerning disclosure of information under the FOIA, add guidance for determining what information qualifies as commercial information under the Act, and provide specific examples. The Postal Service received three sets of comments.

Published in the *Federal Register* September 21, 2018

Changes to Validations for Intelligent Mail Package Barcode (Doc # 2018-20587)

AGENCY: Postal Service.

Action: Final Rule.

Summary:

The Postal Service is amending *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM®) to add new Intelligent Mail® package barcode (IMpb) validations for evaluating compliance with IMpb requirements for

DATES: Effective Date September 21, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Juliaann Hess at (202) 268-7663 or via email at jsanders.hess@usps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Postal Service published a notice of proposed rulemaking on February 27, 2018 ([83 FR 8399](#)), to amend the DMM to update IMpb requirements relative to Compliance Quality Validations for Address Quality, Shipping Services File Manifest Quality, and Barcode Quality. These validations will allow the Postal Service to further improve service, tracking, and visibility, all of which will facilitate the identification of noncompliant mailpieces and customer experiences.

Published in the *Federal Register* September 21, 2018

Sunshine Act Meetings: Temporary Emergency Committee of the Board of Governors (Doc # 2018-20752)

AGENCY: Postal Service.

Status: Closed

Matters to be considered:

Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

1. Strategic Issues.
2. Financial Matters.
3. Executive Session—Discussion of prior agenda items and Temporary Emergency Committee governance.

DATE: Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael J. Elston, Acting Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20260-1000. Telephone: (202) 268-4800.

Published in the *Federal Register* September 20, 2018

Sunshine Act Meetings: Temporary Emergency Committee of the Board of Governors (Doc # 2018-20602)

AGENCY: Postal Service.

Status: Closed

Matters to be considered:

Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at 8:30 a.m.

1. Strategic Items.
2. Executive Session.

Wednesday, September 12, at 8:30 a.m.

1. Strategic Items.
2. Financial Matters.
3. Executive Session.

DATE: Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at 8:30 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael J. Elston, Acting Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20260-1000. Telephone: (202) 268-4800.

Published in the *Federal Register* September 13, 2018

Temporary Emergency Committee of the Board of Governors; Sunshine Act Meeting (Doc # 2018-20066)

AGENCY: Postal Service.

Status: A portion of the meeting was held as an open session at 8:00 am on Sept 13, 2018. Agenda items included:

1. Administrative Items

The closed session was held promptly afterwards.

DATE: Thursday, September 13, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael J. Elston, Acting Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20260-1000. Telephone: (202) 268-4800.

Published in the *Federal Register* September 5, 2018

Temporary Emergency Committee of the Board of Governors; Sunshine Act Meeting (Doc # 2018-19371)

AGENCY: Postal Service.

Status: Closed

Matters to be considered:

Thursday, September 13, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.

1. Strategic Issues.
2. Financial Matters.
3. Executive Session—Discussion of prior agenda items and Temporary Emergency Committee governance.

DATE: Thursday, September 13, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael J. Elston, Acting Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20260-1000. Telephone: (202) 268-4800.

Negotiated Service Agreements:

Product Changes-**Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail and First-Class Package Service** *Negotiated Service Agreements:* Posted 9/5/18 (Doc # 2018-19164)

Product Changes-**Priority Mail Express and Priority Mail** *Negotiated Service Agreements:*

Product Changes-**Priority Mail Express** *Negotiated Service Agreements:* Posted 9/6/18 (Doc # 2018-19275)

Product Changes-**Priority Mail** *Negotiated Service Agreements:* Posted 9/6/18 (Doc# 2018-19276)

Product Changes-**Priority Mail and First-Class Package Service** *Negotiated Service Agreement:* Posted 9/5/18 (Doc # 2018-19163), Posted 9/19/18 (Doc # 2018-20313), Posted 9/19/18 (Doc # 2018-20314)

Product Changes-**Parcel Select** *Negotiated Service Agreement:* Posted 9/20/18 (Doc # 2018-20440)

Postal Bulletins:

Postal Bulletin 22502 dated 9/13/18

<https://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/2018/pb22502/pb22502.pdf>

Publication 431 Revision: Changes to Post Office Box Service and Caller Service Fee Groups

Postal Bulletin 22501 dated 8/30/18

<https://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/2018/pb22501/pb22501.pdf>

DMM Reminder: Priority Mail Commercial Plus Cubic Markings

Publication 431 Revision: Changes to Post Office Box Service and Caller Service Fee Groups

Additional Resources:

FRN: [Federal Register Notices](#)

PB: [Postal Bulletin](#)

PE: [Postal Explorer](#) is a mailer's resource for all information contained in the [Domestic Mail Manual](#) (DMM), [International Mail Manual](#) (IMM), [Publication 52](#), *Hazardous, Restricted, and Perishable Mail*.
PostalPro: [PostalPro](#) is a mailer's resource for other information (i.e., Mailing and Shipping, Operations, Industry Forum, Certifications, Resources).

Please visit us on the USPS [Industry Outreach](#) website.

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