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[Proposed Rules]

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Other Changes: Collect on Delivery (COD) Redesign; Eliminate BRM Parcels Permit & Account Maintenance Fee; Eliminate QBRM Permit Fees; Implement a Simplified Approach for Shipping Services; Adjust Standard Mail Forwarding Fee to 2 Decimal Places; Money Order Redemption Period; Enterprise PO Boxes Online (ePOBOL) Payment Process Change; Federal Agencies Ordering Stamps From the Stamp Fulfillment Center

#### Extra Services

##### Collect on Delivery (COD) Redesign

Currently, Collect on Delivery allows for both street delivery and Hold for Pickup (HFPU) options and is available at Retail locations, online, and through commercial channels. Letter Carriers may accept cash, money order or checks for the amount due up to \$1,000.00 from the recipient upon delivery. Recipients of COD shipments can currently pick up their items at USPS Retail locations or wait for a USPS Letter Carrier to deliver them to a street address. Carriers may have to redeliver COD pieces at the street address if the customer is not home or able to pay on the first attempt.

The Postal Service is proposing to make Hold For Pickup the only delivery method for Collect on Delivery items. COD items would be addressed to the delivery address of the recipient's Post Office. The

recipient would receive a notification message to pick-up the item at the Post Office. A reminder email,

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text or phone call message will be sent for Priority Mail Express shipments on day 3 and for all other packages on day 5. After 5 days, Priority Mail Express shipments will be returned to sender. After 15 days all other shipments returned to the sender. As a result of these changes the sender will have their items back in less time than under the current delivery attempt processes. Holding all COD shipments for pick-up has the potential to reduce delivery costs for the Postal Service, as well as ensure prompt payment for the sender.

#### Returns Simplification

##### Eliminate BRM Parcels Permit & Account Maintenance Fee

Currently, Business Reply Mail (BRM) consists of letters, flats, and parcels. Occasionally BRM customers choose to use Business Reply Mail for return parcels because they possessed a BRM permit for inbound correspondence. The Postal Service is proposing to waive the annual permit fee for those current customers using BRM exclusively for return parcels. This will align BRM parcels with other returns products. BRM permit fees for letters and flats, and for weight-averaged BRM letters, flats & parcels, will remain.

## Eliminate QBRM Permit Fees

To further support simplification, the Postal Service is also proposing to eliminate the annual permit fees for Business Reply Customers who use only QBRM Basic and High Volume Qualified for letters and cards. All other fees and postage pricing remain intact.

## Implement a Simplified Approach for Shipping Services

The Postal Service is proposing to eliminate the fees for certain outbound and return permits used for parcel shipments including associated annual account maintenance fees. This proposal streamlines the application and returns process and also eliminates the need to pay permit application fees for additional entry points. Shipping Products included under this umbrella are outbound shipments of Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, First-Class Package Service, Parcel Select (including Parcel Select Lightweight), Bound Printed Matter, Media Mail, Library Mail and for return shipments of MRS, Parcel Return Service and BRM (parcels only).

## Address Correction Service

## Adjust Standard Mail Forwarding Fee to 2 Decimal Places

Currently, Standard Mail Letters and Flats mailers that use this

service are charged the Forwarding Fee via Address Correction Service (ACS) billing which is managed by the ACS Department of Address Management Systems in Memphis, TN. The ACS data file, Shipping Notice data file, and the Invoice data file have an implied decimal position that is conducive to the 2-decimal places for address correction services. When mailers use these files to track their ACS fees and costs, they must recognize that the Forwarded Fee product codes have an implied 3-decimal place price and must manipulate the data files provided to them through ACS so that the decimal place differences are recognized in all of the data files provided via ACS. This proposal would adjust the Standard Mail Forwarding Fee to 2-decimal point places to allow mailers to track their ACS fees and costs without making adjustments for the Forwarding Fees.

#### Money Order Redemption Period

To help simplify Postal accounting procedures and comport with Banking Industry Standards, and other companies' comparable money order offerings, the Postal Service proposes to change the time limit for claims for improper payment to a limit of one year. This language will be updated on the reverse side of the domestic and international money order form so the purchaser is aware of the time limit.

#### Enterprise PO Boxes Online (ePOBOL) Payment Process Change

The U.S. Postal Service continues to seek opportunities to

streamline mailers' experience when using our products and services.

For example, we plan to allow Enterprise PO Boxes Online customers to modify their current payment period to align their multiple PO Boxes, Caller Service, and Reserve payments to one due date per year, when using an Enterprise Payment Account (EPA).

Eligible customers will be allowed to pay pro-rated fees, on a one time basis to align all payments to a selected annual renewal date in the future. This method is optional and will be available for all of an eligible customer's PO Boxes and Caller Service numbers. When the true-up date is reached they will continue to pay for the 12 month term as committed when first enrolled in the Enterprise Payment Account.

#### OMAS Stamp Delivery Fee

#### Federal Agencies Ordering Stamps From the Stamp Fulfillment Center

Federal agencies have the option today to order stamps from the USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services in Kansas City and to pay for the stamps through their Official Mail Accounting System (OMAS) accounts.

It has been a long-standing practice to charge customers other than federal agencies a nominal handling fee for all purchases ordered through Stamp Fulfillment Services. Beginning January 1, 2017, these fees will apply to federal agencies using OMAS.

The handling fee schedule can be found in section 1560 of the Mail Classification Schedule, under References, on the Postal Regulatory Commission Web site at <http://www.prc.gov/>.

