

1998. Late comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the 1998 Supplement may be purchased at any Government Printing Office (GPO) bookstore (stock no. 041-001-00507-2). The main GPO bookstore is located at 710 North Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC 20401, (202) 512-0132. A copy may also be obtained from OMB home page on the Internet which is located at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EOP/OMB/Grants>.

Comments on the 1998 Supplement should be mailed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Federal Financial Management, Financial Standards and Reporting Branch, Room 6025, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Where possible, comments should reference the applicable page numbers. When comments of five pages or less are sent in by facsimile (fax), they should be faxed to (202) 395-4915. Electronic mail comments may be submitted to RAMSEY_T@A1.EOP.GOV. Please include the full body of the electronic mail comments in the text of the message and not as an attachment. Please include the name, title, organization, postal address, phone number, and E-mail address in the text of the message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Recipients should contact their cognizant or oversight agency for audit, or Federal awarding agency, as may be appropriate in the circumstances. Subrecipients should contact their pass through entity. Federal agencies should contact Terrill W. Ramsey, Office of Management and Budget, Office of Federal Financial Management, Financial Standards and Reporting Branch, telephone (202) 395-3993.

Jacob J. Lew,

Acting Director.

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BILLING CODE 3110-01-P

POSTAL SERVICE

Proposed Changes to Current Delivery Record Filing System

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In the fall of 1998, the Postal Service will begin testing a new technological process that eliminates hardcopy filing of delivery records. If the test is successful, subsequent changes are planned in the portions of the Domestic Mail Manual and Domestic Mail Classification Schedule

concerning delivery record information to reflect that hardcopy records will no longer be retained at the office of address.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Mail or deliver written comments to the Manager, Expedited and Package Information Systems, USPS Headquarters, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 4200NB, Washington, DC 20260-4299.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Bornitz, 202-268-6797.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Scope

A national Postal Service database for maintaining delivery date, time, and other information is already in place and is being used for Express Mail items. This database is also being expanded to include electronic Delivery Confirmation records. Additional testing will include material handling, operations, and systems tests for the capturing, routing, optical scanning, storage, and retrieval of electronic records that include a signature. Testing of this universal strategy for signature capture is expected to begin in August, 1998, and will be completed by November, 1998. The Postal Service believes that the increased accessibility of an electronic database will improve customer service and response time, and speed up processes involving the filing of indemnity claims.

Current Internal Use

Delivery records are maintained for Postal Service use to reply to delivery inquiries and to substantiate indemnity claims. Current delivery records include article number, recipient signature, printed name (optional), delivery address, and delivery date. Records are also made available to customers in the form of a Return Receipt After Mailing or Duplicate Return Receipt. The Postal Service currently maintains delivery records for Express Mail, COD, Certified, Numbered Insured, Registered, Restricted Delivery, and Return Receipt for Merchandise items. The majority of records are maintained in hardcopy format at the office of delivery. However, some large offices use alternative methods where forms from several delivery units or offices are consolidated in a centralized location for filing and retrieval. Electronic records, without signature information, are maintained for Express Mail and Delivery Confirmation items in a centralized database.

Future Internal Use

The use of delivery record information will not change under this program. The delivery record will include the article number, date of delivery, signature of recipient, name of recipient, and addressee's delivery address if different from the address shown on the mailpiece. All electronic delivery records will be maintained at a Postal Service central database.

Current Customer Use

When a customer/mailer requests a Return Receipt, PS Form 3811, the Postal Service provides the requester with a return receipt showing to whom and date delivered, and the addressee's delivery address if different from the address shown on the mailpiece. (This form also contains the customer/recipient signature). When a customer/mailer requests a Return Receipt After Mailing, PS Form 3811-A, the Postal Service provides the name and date of delivery only. If a Duplicate Return Receipt is requested because the original service was not provided, the Postal Service provides the recipient's name, date of delivery, and the addressee's delivery address if different from the address shown on the mailpiece. If delivery was not made, the customer/mailer is provided this information as well. No actual signatures are provided with the latter two options. All information is provided via the mails in hardcopy format.

Future Customer Use

There would be no change in the service provided by Return Receipt options. Return Receipt (purchased at the time of mailing) would remain the same. Service would be improved for Duplicate Return Receipt and Return Receipt After Mailing by the inclusion of an electronically produced image of the customer/recipient's signature. Requesters would receive a Duplicate Return Receipt or Return Receipt After Mailing via fax or mail. The new form design would closely mimic the current form (PS Form 3811-A).

Stanley F. Mires,

Chief Counsel, Legislative.

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995