

Items that were raised at the NRLCA meeting in Fargo.

1. It was shared that there is a rural carrier that is refusing to pick up packages and not handling as required. The original response was that it is part of the daily responsibilities of the rural carrier and they should be doing this. Upon getting more info it turns out that this is not a rural carrier but rather a CDS route. I have visited with the MPOO and contact has been made with the Postmaster of this office. Postmaster will instruct the CDS carrier.
2. CFS mail on Saturday nights seems to come back in the DPS on Monday mornings. All mail goes to Fargo on Saturdays for 582 and 583. This information has been shared with Fargo and also notification has been sent to the AO offices in 582 and 583 on mail prep for Saturdays.
3. Concern was raised on how long it takes to get the 3982 labels back for forwarding. There is a new program that is rolling out in June. Kevin Frazier is the contact person for the Dakotas. Each office is getting a small printer which will allow them to print their own labels for any COA from their office. This includes mail forwarded to anywhere in the country, not just local.
4. How are we supposed to handle first class letters or flats that have delivery confirmation on them. I believe I gave the wrong answer to this question. The Headquarters stand is that we do not scan these pieces. Since the customer has not paid the Priority postage and appropriate del con fee then we should not be giving the del con service. First Class Parcels are eligible for Delivery Confirmation.
5. Question was raised on whether a rural carrier should be getting credit for a box if they don't delivery mail there. The customer has asked the carrier to pick up outgoing mail if the flag is raised. If we do not deliver mail to this box then it should be coded as non active and therefore the carrier would not receive credit. Technically if this is not an authorized delivery point the customer shouldn't have erected a mailbox. There would be no requirement that the rural carrier has to pick up the outgoing mail since this isn't an authorized delivery point. If the carrier chooses to continue picking up the mail they would receive credit for that outgoing mail that was brought back to the office.
6. Customer was using flat rate priority mail boxes and was using postage stamps on the packages. Statement was made that we couldn't accept the packages since they had stamps on them. Customer has since quit using the flat rate box.

Due to heightened security, the Postal Service™ has revised standards for depositing mail bearing only postage stamps as postage. Simply said any mail bearing stamps that is over 13 ounces can not be picked up by any carrier. We need to have a way to trace the mail piece should it become suspicious and if a rural carrier conducts a retail transaction usually that rule carrier will remember from whom the mail piece and money was taken from.

I will try explain the anonymous mail guidelines that we must follow.

Rural Carriers/Contract and Delivery Service Suppliers

1. All anonymous mail found in unattended locations such as on counters and docks; in lobbies, lobby drops, and collection receptacles; and at postal facility side doors should be isolated, placarded, and deposited in the designated anonymous mail container(s) at the Anonymous Mail Unit upon return to the postal facility.

2. Do not accept anonymous mail from business or residential customers, even in face-to-face transactions. Customers should take these items to an employee at a retail service counter for proper acceptance.
3. Anonymous mail left for collection at a customer's mailbox or a business's outgoing mail collection point should not be collected. Label DDD2 should be placed on each anonymous mail piece indicating why it was not collected. Place Label DDD2 over the destination address, city, state, and ZIP, leaving the addressee's name visible.
4. All rural carriers/contract and delivery service suppliers should have a supply of anonymous mail placards and DDD2 labels in their vehicle, or on their person.
5. Mail pieces weighing more than 13 ounces without postage requiring a retail transaction are acceptable as long as the return address matches the address at the point of pickup and the customer/business is known to reside or do business at that location. Note: Local postal management should provide a means of making mail pieces requiring a retail transaction identifiable (i.e. means of applying a PVI, meter strip, or AVSEC Clearance Stamp).
6. Report missing, damaged, and faded DDD1 labels to your supervisor upon return to the postal facility.

What if a customer presents a parcel, face-to-face to a rural carrier and the money to apply the postage for the customer. Can the rural carrier apply postage stamps. Upon the rural carrier applying the postage stamps and then enters into the mailstream.

Is this allowable? Yes, steps listed below.

The rural carrier can accept a parcel as a "Post Office on Wheels" and then would need a AvSec release stamp because of the stamps he had to apply? If the rural carrier can't AvSec release the package, then the rural carrier upon returning to the office must either ask a clerk or Postmaster to apply a zero PVI or they can stamp it with the AVSEC Stamp.

If the customer uses click n ship or a meter, the rural carrier can pick those packages up. The whole idea is that there has to be a way of tracking who the customer is.