



POSTAL NEWS

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SPECIAL USPS CONTRACTOR HIRED FOR THE NIGHT OF DEC. 24/DEC.25

The United States Postal Service has contracted for a very special carrier to deliver through the night of Dec. 24. USPS Vice President of Public Affairs and Communications Azeezaly Jaffer said the ad hoc special carrier has no particular knowledge of ZIP Codes, but has an uncanny ability to recognize chimneys and other features on the homes of worthy children he knows by first names only.

“Historically, this is one of our heaviest package days of the year. We wouldn’t want to do it without the extra help from him,” said Jaffer.

This carrier operates a fuel-efficient high-capacity transporter vehicle powered by nine aeronautically-skilled long-antlered caribou, and has a reputation for amazingly efficient distribution. Jaffer warned that his appearance might raise some eyebrows. Rather than a sharp, creased slate-blue and gray, standard-issue uniform, this temporary worker insists that (as an independent contractor) he be free to wear an old-fashioned, bright red getup with white, fluffy fringe. His hair falls about his shoulders in ringlets, his beard is long and flowing, and he wears a stocking cap rather than Postal headgear.

Jaffer said he cautioned the new hire against soliciting gratuities. The contractor agreed, insisting that he was happy to accept only cookies and milk for himself; fruit, hay and other vegetarian treats for his crew. Jaffer noted the temp has declined any remuneration for his Herculean effort. In negotiations, laughter caused his belly to shake vigorously, and with a twinkle in his eye, he said, “It’s only one day a year for me, guys – you’ve got it six days a week, every week.”

The Postal Service has made holiday shipping quick, easy and convenient. This ground-breaking contract is one more innovation from the Postal Service, which has increased efficiencies, cut costs, and kept rates steady for three holiday seasons. “Postmaster General Jack Potter has committed to the American people that we will not raise rates before 2006. This year and next year, holiday stamps will cost only thirty-seven cents! And some people don’t believe that,” Jaffer noted with a shrug.