



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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POSTAL NEWS

Contact: Joanne Veto
202-268-3118
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MEDIA ADVISORY

Postal Service prepares for 20 billion holiday cards, letters and packages

The U.S. Postal Service will deliver 20 billion cards, letters and packages between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve. But that's only part of the Postal Service holiday story. Online services. Solutions for holiday shopping, shipping and mailing needs. Post Offices decked out in the season's finest. Employees ready to help make the holidays sparkle. The Postal Service kicks off the season with a press conference – outside – and shows off the 2006 holiday stamp.

When: Tuesday, Nov. 28
10 a.m.

Where: National Postal Museum
Massachusetts Ave. and First Street NE
Entrance closest to Union Station
Washington, DC

Who: Pat Donahoe, deputy postmaster general and COO
Susan Plonkey, vice president, customer service
University of Maryland Brass Ensemble

Story lines: *What it Takes:* How the Postal Service will deliver 20 billion pieces of mail and make the holidays hassle free for its customers. Donahoe will lay out the plan.

Log On and Step Inside a Post Office: This year, the Post Office comes to you. Postal Ambassadors in uniform will demonstrate USPS' online suite of services. Reporters will learn how to request a free package pickup and build, address and mail holiday greeting cards.

Shipping Tips: Learn from the pros how to avoid holiday shipping and packing mishaps.

B-Roll: DVD of package volume, mail being processed, slates of packing tips

Audio: Brass Quintet
Live demonstration soundbites

Since 1775, the Postal Service has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. It is an independent federal agency that visits 142 million homes and businesses every day and is the only service provider delivering to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of more than \$72 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mailing and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The Postal Service delivers more than 46 percent of the world's mail volume—some 206 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year—and serves seven million customers each day at its 37,000 retail locations nationwide.

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