



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 16, 2003

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Anthrax tests at USPS V Street government mails unit are negative; facility reopened

The U.S. Postal Service conducted precautionary testing for anthrax at its Washington, DC, V Street government mails unit yesterday morning, Jan. 15. All 86 samples tested negative.

The testing began after the Federal Reserve notified USPS on Jan. 14 that routine tests they make on incoming mail had produced one preliminary positive result for anthrax. The Federal Reserve reported late yesterday that further testing showed the sample to be negative.

While there was no indication of any anthrax contamination at V Street, the Postal Service closed the unit after receiving the Federal Reserve's initial preliminary positive test result, and conducted tests at the V Street facility as a precautionary step to assure the well-being of employees and customers.

Following the negative test results, the facility – which had been closed during testing – has now been reopened for business.