

United States Postal Service

§ 224.5

(7) Maintaining liaison with investigative and law enforcement agencies, and all levels of government on matters of mutual interest.

(c) The Inspection Service through the Chief Postal Inspector shall promptly report to the Inspector General the significant activities being carried out by the Inspection Service and on all other matters as required by law.

[56 FR 55823, Oct. 30, 1991, as amended at 67 FR 16024, Apr. 4, 2002]

§ 224.4 General Counsel.

(a) *General.* The General Counsel heads the Law Department; the Government Relations Department reports to the General Counsel.

(b) *Law Department.* The Law Department is responsible for:

(1) Serving as legal advisor to the entire Postal Service and interpreting laws as they relate to the Postal Service, except as provided in § 230.1(c).

(2) Making rulings, giving advisory opinions, drafting or approving legal instruments, instituting and maintaining administrative proceedings, representing the Postal Service in administrative proceedings, and in judicial proceedings, as authorized, except as provided in § 230.1(c).

(3) Preparing the legislative program of the Postal Service and publishing regulations in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(4) Administering activities under the Tort Claims Act, and other personal injury and physical loss claims.

(5)(i) Receiving service of petitions for review of a final agency order in an appropriate Federal circuit court of appeals. Any aggrieved person filing a petition for review of a decision of the Governors within 10 days of issuance of the Governors' decision must ensure that a court-stamped copy of the petition for review is received by the General Counsel within that 10-day period in order to qualify for participation in the random selection process established in 28 U.S.C. 2112(a) for determining the appropriate court of appeals to review an agency final order when petitions for review of that order are filed in more than one court of appeals.

(ii) If the General Counsel receives two or more petitions filed in two or

more United States Courts of Appeals for review of a decision by the Governors within ten days of the effective date of that action for the purpose of judicial review, the General Counsel will notify the U.S. Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation of any petitions that were received within the 10-day period, in accordance with the applicable rule of the panel.

(iii) For the purpose of determining whether a petition for review has been received within the 10-day period under paragraph (b)(5)(ii) of this section, the petition shall be considered to be received on the date of delivery, if personally delivered. If the delivery is accomplished by mail, the date of receipt shall be the date noted on the return receipt card.

(6) Acting as agent for the receipt of legal process on behalf of the Postal Service and the Postmaster General and other officials resulting from the performance of their official functions.

(7) Administering the Ethical Conduct Program.

(c) *Government Relations Department.* The Government Relations Department is responsible for:

(1) Maintaining cooperative relationships among Congress, Federal agencies within the Executive Branch, the White House, and state and local government officials.

(2) Advising postal officials on legislative or other policy matters in public areas involving congressional committees or individual members of Congress.

(3) Maintaining liaison with members of Congress and their staffs to exchange information on specific legislation and Postal Service policies and operations.

[52 FR 46998, Dec. 11, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 785, Jan. 9, 1991; 56 FR 55823, Oct. 30, 1991; 67 FR 16024, Apr. 4, 2002]

§ 224.5 Planning Department.

The Planning Department is responsible for:

(a) Forecasting trends and developments, both external and internal, which may have an impact on the Postal Service environment.

(b) Assisting departments in developing plans in accordance with goals