

June 22, 2026

VICE PRESIDENTS, AREA RETAIL AND DELIVERY OPERATIONS
VICE PRESIDENTS, REGIONAL PROCESSING OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: Operations Policy for the Independence Day Holiday - Saturday, July 4, 2026

This memorandum provides general operating policy and holiday planning guidance for the upcoming 2026 Independence Day Holiday (observed on Saturday, July 4, 2026). Service levels for this holiday are displayed in Exhibit 125.22 of the *Postal Operations Manual* (POM).

Independence Day is a widely observed holiday, which means that many businesses are closed and not producing outgoing mail. There will be no regular delivery service or mail collection service. Personnel on duty should check collection boxes at Post Office, lobby drops and Self-Service Kiosks (SSKs) for overflow on Friday, July 3, 2026.

Delivery Operations

All offices should carefully review their staffing plans for this holiday and adjust as necessary to meet the needs of their communities.

- All delivery units should act prior to this date to ensure that units are in a current package and mail delivery status.
- For planning purposes, Post Offices should use recent mail volume trends and adjust for any unforeseen local circumstances.
- The pre- and post-holiday surveys adhering to delivery compliance with these plans must be completed with accuracy.

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Local management should review the Route Book for the July 4th holiday drop time for Amazon. Route Books will be shared on the [Route Book PowerBI](#) and via a My Post Office (MyPO) certification link.

- A delivery manager or supervisor must:
 - Post the holiday work schedules and review attendance patterns to be addressed prior to the holiday.
 - Ensure compliance with the Triangulation Pull Up Play Escalation leading into the holiday.

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Local management should review the Route Book for the July 5th Sunday drop time for Amazon. Route Books will be shared on the [Route Book PowerBI](#) and via a My Post Office (MyPO) certification link.

Friday, July 3, 2026

In addition to regular delivery and collections, all delivery offices should:

- Take appropriate action to ensure units remain in a current status; the goal is to have zero delayed or curtailed mail volumes going into the holiday.
- Plan and schedule in alignment to address efficiencies to ensure late carriers, service, scanning indicators, overtime and penalty overtime impacts are reduced.

Saturday, July 4, 2026 - Independence Day Holiday, “Widely Observed”

- There will be no regular delivery service, premium express mail delivery or mail collection service
 - **Delivery of any product (including delayed mail delivery) not committed on this day will only be approved by the Vice President for that assigned Region, with prior notification provided to the Chief, Retail and Delivery Officer.**
- There will be no Amazon Night Owl drops scheduled Friday night into Saturday morning.
- There will be drops to all Amazon /**Sunday HUB locations ONLY on Saturday.** Delivery is **NOT** required **ONLY** acceptance. **The volume dropped on Saturday to the HUB locations will be manifested for Sunday delivery.** Please review Route Book for drop times on July 4, 2026.

Sunday, July 5, 2026 – Sunday HUB Delivery Day

- Normal (Sunday) service levels will be provided in delivery operations including Sunday/Holiday Priority Mail Express and Sunday/Holiday Same Day Package Delivery (HUB and spoke structures).
- Management should schedule based on Dynamic Routing (DRT) projections versus actual hours:
 - Carriers should not be scheduled prior to Distribution Up Time (DUT).
 - Carriers should be loading their vehicles within 15 minutes of their begin tour.
 - Carriers should be delivering packages within 45 minutes of their begin tour.
- EAS must use Delivery Management Systems (DMS), when available, to confirm proper scanning and delivery of Sunday parcels has been completed at all locations.
- There will be Amazon Night Owl drops scheduled Saturday night into Sunday for Sunday delivery.
- The Amazon volume received by the Sunday HUBS on Saturday is committed for Sunday delivery.

- Delivery of any product (including delayed mail delivery) not committed on this day and will only be approved by the Vice President for that assigned Region, with prior notification provided to the Chief, Retail and Delivery Officer.

Monday, July 6, 2026

Return to normal Monday service levels

- Ensure planning and scheduling with craft and EAS are in alignment to reduce splitting open assignments while addressing efficiencies, eliminating late carriers, service and scanning failures and minimizing overtime accumulation.
- Take appropriate action to ensure units remain in a current status; the goal is to have zero delayed or curtailed mail volumes.
- Review past performance and work with In-Plant Support and Network Operations on transportation.
- Full local management engagement, to include reducing and eliminating telecoms during morning operations to support the front-line delivery teams, is required.
- Plan and schedule in alignment to support leave and return times **without** conducting 6:00am to 9:00am package deliveries.
- Delivery managers and supervisors should plan for additional mail volume and packages for delivery after the holiday **without** pre-touring carriers.
- Plan and schedule in alignment to address efficiencies ensuring service, scanning performance, late carriers, overtime and penalty overtime impacts are reduced.
- Collections must start and run on time to meet the DOV to the mail processing facilities.
- Review of routes after a holiday – All Senior Management (EAS 23 and above) shall conduct a 3999-route review. A selection of routes will be provided by HQ Delivery prior to the Holiday.

Retail and Post Office Operations

Management should review staffing plans and adjust as necessary to meet the needs of their communities using recent and same period as last year (SPLY) retail sales trend information and mail volumes.

Management should ensure SSK, Rapid Dropoff Station (RDS), and Smart Locker consumables and supplies are fully stocked and postage stamps/mailing supplies (Expedited Packaging Supplies, ReadyPost, Greeting Cards, Gift Cards) are available for customers.

Offices should display proper “door cling” signage prior to the holiday. Visibly taped or handwritten signage is not acceptable. Advise customers of any Contract Postal Units (CPUs) or Approved Shipper (APS) locations where retail services will be available on the Independence Day holiday and provide them with the hours of operation.

Offices should ensure their facilities are cleaned and maintain their daily PS Form 4852/Line H requirements for custodial operations.

Friday, July 3: Normal service levels will be provided in Retail and Post Office Operations.

- Remote Forwarding System (RFS): Ensure undeliverable parcels are processed timely to avoid backlogs through the holiday.
- Parcel Return Service (PRS): Dispatch PRS as scheduled. If needed, escalate non-picked up package issues to your Business Service Network (BSN) representative, and annotate in [RADAR](#). For Return Delivery Units (RDU), follow the 48-hour rule before dispatching to the plant.
- Equipment: Confirm all scanning equipment is operable and transmitting without incidents including: ADUS, SDUS, PASS, DSS, MDD-IO. Extra batteries should be kept on hand as needed. For ADUS and SDUS equipment, the holiday sort plan mimics the Sunday PDTAT configuration. Sites should verify their PDTAT files are correct. If changes are required, submit [RADAR Sort Plan Change Request link](#) by Tuesday, June 30.
- Notice Left Shelf: Verify items receive notification or are returned according to the schedule. For post office box packages, if it fits, place in the PO box or parcel locker.
- MyPO Notifications: Check MyPO notifications, including hold mail, package pickups and redelivery. Ensure items are closed in MyPO timely. Carrier pickup requests are to be closed the same day as the request in MyPO, otherwise they will be reported as failed.
- First In First Out' (FIFO): Use placards, signs, and lines for maintaining FIFO to manage volume and assist with applying the correct Delivery Day Indicator (DDI).
- Delivery Day Indicator (DDI): Management oversight to ensure delivery units apply the correct DDI BEFORE scanning packages (see below). **REMINDER: After 11:00 AM, in conjunction with 15 minutes of idle time (no scans), the PASS and DSS machines will no longer have "Today" available as a DDI selection.**
- PM Parcel Distribution: Review volumes, schedules, and work all available parcels in the PM to ensure unit is clean before the holiday.
- ADUS and SDUS sites should prep and stage any on hand PM parcel volume for early ADUS/SDUS runs on the day after the holiday.
- Sorting and Staging Area: Confirm all processing equipment/containers are neat, in place, and ready for the following day. Check housekeeping: floors clear of debris, trash bins emptied, extra empty equipment staged ready for pickup.
- Verify all major mailer route books for scheduled drop times over the holiday weekend.
- Utilize the Amazon projections sent on Tuesday (6/30/26) for proper planning and scheduling.
- Confirm users have the correct PDTA access to send for routing.
- Ensure all MTE is prepped and dispatched back to plant partners.
- Ensure all SSK alerts are cleared, and consumables are filled before leaving COB (receipt tape and labels).

DDI Selections:

Date Packages are SCANNED	Date Packages will be DELIVERED	DDI Selection
Friday, July 3, 2026	Fri – July 3	Today
	Sat – July 4	Holiday
	Sun – July 5	Sunday
	Mon – July 6	Next Day *
Saturday, July 4, 2026	Sat – July 4	Holiday
	Sun – July 5	Sunday
	Mon – July 6	Next Day *
Sunday, July 5, 2026	Sun – July 5	Sunday
	Mon – July 6	Next Day *
Monday, July 6, 2026	Mon – July 7	Today

	Tues – July 8	Tomorrow
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* Used for processing packages on the current day, BUT have a Delivery Date for the Next Day

- Function 4 Staffing: Balance workhours to workload by reviewing the VAP Gap tool to identify staff opportunities, assess Sunday and holiday volume trend data and mail arrival times to schedule staff that coincides with the workload and performance expectations.
- Collections: At the local level, confirm holiday-specific collection transportation schedules for the dispatching of collection mail. Clear collection points in front of and within the post office (e.g., collection boxes, inside lobby drops and self-service kiosks) prior to truck arriving and dispatch all available outgoing mail on first available truck. Follow separation and MTEL placarding procedures when preparing mail for dispatch according to local holiday schedules Ensure all MTE is prepped and dispatched to plant partners.

Saturday, July 4: Independence Day Holiday, “Widely Observed”:

- Retail services will not be available.
- Post Office Operations personnel on duty should check and clear collection points in front of and within the post office (e.g., collection boxes, inside lobby drops and self-service kiosks) follow separation and MTEL placarding procedures to prepare and dispatch all outgoing mail on first available truck on Sunday/Monday Morning.
- District managers or designee will coordinate with plant partners to staff remittance units if warranted.
- There will be drops to all Amazon **Sunday HUB locations ONLY on Saturday**. Delivery is **NOT** required, **ONLY** acceptance. **The volume dropped on Saturday to the HUB locations will be manifested for Sunday delivery**. Please review Route Book for scheduled drop times on July 4, 2026.
 - There will be NO Amazon Night Owl drops scheduled Friday night into Saturday

Sunday, July 5: Normal (Sunday) service levels will be provided

- Normal HUB Delivery on Sunday
- Ensure all MTE is prepped and dispatched to plant partners
- There will be Amazon Night Owl drops scheduled Saturday night into Sunday for Sunday delivery.
- The Amazon volume received by the Sunday HUBS on Saturday is committed for Sunday delivery.

Monday, July 6:

- Return to normal service levels. Management should review the SSRD from 7/6/26 (FY26 day-after “observed” Independence Day Holiday) and use recent sales trend information to adjust for local circumstances.
- Check SSK, RDS, and Smart Locker consumables and clear alerts. Ensure supplies are fully stocked and postage stamps/ mailing supplies (Expedited Packaging Supplies, ReadyPost, Greeting Cards, Gift Cards) are available for customers.
- Package pickup services should be provided at Dutch doors along with soft openings to reduce customer wait times to the fullest extent possible.
- Function 4 Staffing:
 - Plan for additional mail volume and packages for post-holiday delivery
 - Review VAP Gap tool, post-holiday volume trend data, CSAW projections, mail arrival times and utilize F4 IVES Scheduler to plan for staffing that coincides with the projected workload and performance expectations.
 - Ensure all MTE is prepped and dispatched to plant partners.

Processing Operations

- There will be NO cancellations on Saturday holiday
- RTO volumes will not be cancelled on the Holiday
- Opening Units kept at day zero for Letters and Flats.
- Advance all available Pink & Blue Marketing Mail for p delivery
- Review IVES scheduling to match operating plans.
- Focus on RPG Compliance and P2P (Start Time & Throughput).
- Inhibit Delivery Point Sequence (DPS) sort program regeneration prior to the holiday and re-establish afterwards.
- Utilize an RPG model for DPS processing on Saturday & Sunday night that ensures an early DPS dispatch for Monday delivery.
- Ensure only one DPS run on Monday morning (no double runs of DPS).
- Communicate with Manager Customer Relations and Logistics to leverage mailer volumes available for Holiday pick up and Outgoing processing.
- Decisions for Monday early collection plans will be determined locally by Region/Division. (See below instructions related to processing and dispatching Commercial Mailings).
- Evaluate the processing of Outgoing Packages on the day of the holiday to avoid late clearance on Monday. (Sites not processing OG on the holiday must create an early collection plan to start outgoing operations earlier).
Assign SWYB to avoid VAP issues to THS.

PROCESSING NOCC

- Increased nightly oversight of plant performance to plan/capacity
- 24-hour coverage, including on the holiday, to provide assistance and escalation
- Increased monitoring of MMP performance to plan on Saturday & Sunday
- Increased monitoring of DPS performance to plan on Saturday & Sunday
- Monitoring of all planned/unplanned Power Outages

Processing and Dispatch of Commercial Mailings

Specific planning activities should include:

- Coordination with Business Mail Entry Unit (BMEU) Managers.
- Coordination with Detached Mail Units
- Coordination with Business Service Network Managers.
- Notifying Commercial Mailers of BMEU Holiday hours and assurance that mail which is entered will be processed and dispatched.
- Adjusting Operating Plans and RPGs to include the anticipated Commercial Mail volumes.
- Ensuring that all processed mail is dispatched on scheduled transportation on **Monday night and Tuesday morning**.
- Ensure communication to the field of the Air and Surface Network dispatch plans.

Plant managers must ensure that Parcel Return Service (PRS-569xx) operations will be staffed, and all returns sorted and available to PRS partners as agreed.

Plant managers are to ensure proper Priority Mail Open & Distribute (PMOD) process, especially ensuring all destinating volume receives it's stopped the clock Received at Opening Unit (RAOU) scan upon arrival.

Plant managers must ensure that Integrated Operating Plans (IOPs) between the BMEUs and Operations are updated to ensure timely induction, processing and dispatch of mail presented to the BMEU prior to and on holidays. BMEU managers must ensure that all staff at both the BMEUs and the Detached Mail Units are familiar with and execute their operations in accordance with the IOP. Local collection and cancellation plans must be coordinated with associate offices and must support the achievement of Operating Plan Precision. Managers and supervisors must plan for anticipated increased volumes after the holiday. It is vital to ensure all mail is finalized, prepared for assignment, and dispatched on the appropriate transportation network.

Plants must make plans to ensure that destinating volumes are processed to meet service goals before and after the holiday. All missorted, missent, return-to-sender and Postal Automated Redirection System (PARS) and Flat PARS volumes must be identified, finalized, prepared for assignment and dispatched on the appropriate transportation network on Saturday.

Reductions in FAST holiday constraints or facility closures will not be approved; every site must maintain appointment availability.

Plants need to ensure timely acceptance of drop shipments. Please ensure that the local FAST facility profile contact information is current.

The FAST Help Desk will be authorized to contact local Plant Managers directly to resolve urgent acceptance issues.

If there is a need to deviate from this guidance, please work through the appropriate office for an exception.

This non-widely observed holiday presents an opportunity to maximize processing to take full advantage of available lift and ensure service expectations are met. Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- All ISCs should work with domestic partner sites to ensure all Export mail is captured prior to holiday and all Import mail is processed or transported to the domestic site for service commitment
- Ensure coordination with Customs & Border Protection (CBP) to provide sufficient staffing to avoid backlogs
- Ensure Customs belts are staffed sufficiently to maximize efficiency and Stop the clock events are performed as required
- Ensure processing and dispatch of all mail throughout the holiday weekend to avoid exceeding or missing surface or air transportation

Maintenance Operations

The Maintenance Technical Support Center (MTSC) will assist mail processing sites with planned power outages in accordance with the following knowledge base (KB) article.

Facility Planned Power Outages

MTSC [KB0012715](#)

Refer to the [Mail Processing Emergency Response Checklists](#) for critical actions and tasks.

Additional Information

- For all power outages, create a ticket on the [MTSC Web Ticket Portal](#) for the affected site and provide all relevant information about the outage.
- For **planned** power outages, sites must submit a Change Request (CR) form to FAP_Power_Outage_Notification@usps.gov. The CR form is available in the MTSC KB.

Upon receipt of the MTSC web ticket, the MTSC Network Operations Application Support (NOAS) team will contact Engineering to:

- Schedule graceful shutdowns of IDS, NDSS, and NGTC for **planned** outages.
- Validate functionality after power is restored for all outages.

If a system has issues going online after power is restored, then create a new ticket for the affected system and request NST assistance.

Non-Emergency Project Requests

MTSC will provide phone support 24 hours a day through the holiday, but will curtail all non-emergency support activities to ensure sufficient HelpDesk coverage during the holiday scheduling period. Normal projects and supplemental support activities will resume in the week following the holiday.

International Service Center Operations

This widely-observed holiday presents an opportunity to consolidate and compress plant operations to generate savings as long as conditions are current. If delays exist within the ISC, this is an opportunity to ensure staffing is scheduled to clear all delayed volumes and maintain service performance levels. Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Use the Run Plan Generator (RPG) to staff operations
- Clear any delayed volumes and advance mail where possible
- Coordinate with Customs & Border Protection (CBP) to provide sufficient staffing to avoid backlogs
- Ensure Customs belts are staffed sufficiently to maximize efficiency

- Work with Area and District to ensure adequate offload plans for inbound ePacket volumes

Logistics Operations

Air Transportation Network

UPS

There will be no UPS operations on Saturday, July 4th. UPS will return to normal operations on Sunday, July 5th.

Holiday	Tender Day	Date	Postal Volume Tendered	Comments
Day before	Friday	7/3/2026	YES	
Independence Day	Saturday	7/4/2026	NO	No Mail Tender on Independence Day
Day after	Sunday	7/5/2026	YES	Normal Operations Resume

FedEx

Lives Acceptance FedEx Network:

The last day for Lives acceptance will be Wednesday, July 2nd for tender to the FedEx network. Normal Lives acceptance will resume on Monday July 6th.

There will be normal FedEx originating Nightsort tender on Friday night July 3rd. The Nightsort destinating flights will return to all destinations on Tuesday morning, July 7th.

Holiday	Day of Week	Date	Night (x67)	Comments
Day before	Friday	7/3/2026	YES	Night-turn aircraft will return to destination on Tuesday morning
Independence Day	Saturday	7/4/2026	NO	
Day after	Sunday	7/5/2026	NO	

Commercial air will operate at a limited capacity throughout the holiday period due to reduced flight schedules offered by commercial carriers. TSA K9 screening will operate as listed below:

Holiday: Independence Day

AMK9

Date	7/3/2026	7/4/2026	7/5/2026	7/6/2026	7/7/2026	7/8/2026	7/9/2026	7/10/2026	7/11/2026	7/12/2026
	FR	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
LAX (AA, AS, UA, DL)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DEN (AA, UA, DL, AS)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
ORD (AA, UA)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SAN (DL, AS)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
PHX (UA, DL, AS)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MSP (DL)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SFO (AA, AS, DL, UA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DFW (AA, DL, UA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
IAH (UA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BOS (AA, DL, UA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
JFK (AA, AS, DL, UA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
EWB (AA, AS, DL, UA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
PHL (AA, DL)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SAT (AA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
ATL (DL)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
TPA (AA, DL, UA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MIA (AA, UA, DL)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SJU (AA)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
PIT (AA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
CVG (DL)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DTW (DL)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SLC (DL)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
PDX (AS, UA, DL)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SEA (AA, AS, DL, UA)	Y	Y	Y	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
ANC (AS)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
GUM (UA)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HNL (AS, DL, UA)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Y = need canine team
 N = do not need canine team
 N/A = not scheduled

International Transportation Plan

Import/Export Plan for the ISC

Holiday	Day of Week	Date	JFK Export	JFK Import	ORD Export	ORD Import
Day before	Friday	7/3/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES
Independence Day	Saturday	7/4/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES
Day after	Sunday	7/5/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES

Holiday	Day of Week	Date	LAX Export	LAX Import	MIA Export	MIA Import
Day before	Friday	7/3/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES
Independence Day	Saturday	7/4/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES
Day after	Sunday	7/5/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES

Customs CBP opening plan and hours at the ISC

Holiday	Day of Week	Date	JFK CBP open	JFK CBP hours	ORD CBP open	ORD CBP hours
Day before	Friday	7/3/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES
Independence Day	Saturday	7/4/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES
Day after	Sunday	7/5/2026	YES	YES	YES	YES

Day before	Friday	7/3/2026	YES	24/7	YES	06:00 – 15:00
Independence Day	Saturday	7/4/2026	YES	24/7	YES	06:00 – 14:00
Day after	Sunday	7/5/2026	YES	24/7	YES	06:00 – 15:00

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Day of Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>LAX CBP open</u>	<u>LAX CBP hours</u>	<u>MIA CBP open</u>	<u>MIA CBP hours</u>
Day before	Friday	7/3/2026	YES	06:00 - 21:00	YES	06:00 - 20:00
Independence Day	Saturday	7/4/2026	YES	06:00 – 21:00	YES	06:00 – 16:00
Day after	Sunday	7/5/2026	YES	06:00 - 14:00	YES	06:00 – 14:00

Surface Transportation Network

Surface Transfer Centers have normal operations for the Independence Day Holiday. Transportation will run as scheduled

Dispatch Procedures

To avoid transportation delays, manage mail volume flow before, during, and after the holiday accordingly:

- Maximize utilization of available surface, commercial air, and FedEx transportation during the holiday period
- Prioritization values established for planned routes ensure commercial air capacity is utilized ahead of FedEx. There should be no adjustment of capacity thresholds to add or delete mail classes under any circumstances. Do not edit the active planned route file.

Please disseminate these policies and procedures to the appropriate personnel in your area. Your immediate attention to these details and dispatch procedures is appreciated.

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