

LABOR RELATIONS



March 21, 2024

RECEIVED
MAR 25 2024

Mr. Ivan Butts
President
National Association of Postal Supervisors
1727 King Street, Suite 400
Alexandria, VA 22314-2753

Dear Ivan:

As a matter of general interest, the Postal Service is revising Publication (Pub) 52, Section 34, *Hazardous, Restricted, and Perishable Mail*.

The revisions are being made to amend the mail product required to ship sharps or regulated medical waste from Priority Mail to USPS Ground Advantage.

Enclosed is a draft copy of a *Postal Bulletin* notice announcing this revision effective April 4, 2024.

Please contact James Timmons at extension 2324 if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Nicholson".

Bruce A. Nicholson
Director
Labor Relations Policies and Programs

Enclosure

Publication 52 Revision: Sharps and Regulated Medical Waste

Effective April 4, 2024, the Postal Service™ is revising section 34 of Publication 52, *Hazardous, Restricted, and Perishable Mail* (Pub 52) to amend the mail product required to ship sharps or regulated medical waste from Priority Mail to USPS Ground Advantage. This amendment aligns the mail product with the actual handling and processing of sharps and regulated medical waste by requiring sharps customers to utilize USPS Ground Advantage instead of Priority Mail when shipping sharps and regulated medical waste through the Postal Service.

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Publication 52 – Hazardous, Restricted, and Perishable Mail

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3 Hazardous materials

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34 Mailability by Hazard Class

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346.2 Mailability

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346.322 Sharps Waste and Other Mailable Regulated Medical Waste

[Revise opening paragraph to read as follows:]

Note: See Packaging Instructions 6D in Appendix [C](#).

Regulated medical waste and sharps medical waste known or suspected to contain a Category A infectious substance is not mailable. Regulated medical waste and sharps medical waste as defined in [346.12f](#) and [346.12g](#) and containing materials classified as

Category B infectious substances must be marked UN3291 and are permitted for mailing only using USPS Returns Service (see DMM 505.3) with USPS Ground Advantage, subject to the following requirements:***

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Appendix C

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USPS Packaging Instruction 6D

Sharps Waste and Other Regulated Medical Waste

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Mailability

[Revise text of 2nd bullet to read as follows:]

- Domestic Mail: Permitted using only USPS Returns Service via USPS Ground Advantage option.

* * * * *

Although effective immediately, the Postal Service™ will incorporate this revision into the next edition of Publication 52, which is available via Postal Explorer® at

<https://pe.usps.com>.

- *Product Classification, Product Solutions, 4-4-2024*