

LABOR RELATIONS



September 7, 2018

Brian J. Wagner  
President  
National Association of Postal  
Supervisors  
1727 King Street, Suite 400  
Alexandria, VA 22314-2753

Dear Brian:

As a matter of information, the Postal Service plans to conduct a survey to identify opportunities to improve package acceptance practices. Responses from this survey will be evaluated by the HAZMAT Education and Outreach task group to determine associated costs, employee safety impacts, and operational impacts to the USPS in the rewrap operation from leaking parcels.

Please find enclosed a copy of the survey as well as instructions to complete the survey. Data for the survey will be collected and input online by the Installation Head or a management designee. The due date for completion of this survey is September 30.

This survey serves a separate purpose which does not affect the use of the Mail Incident Reporting Tool (MIRT) for spilled packages.

Please contact Henry Bear at extension 2324 if you have questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

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

Bruce A. Nicholson  
Manager  
Labor Relations Policy Administration

Enclosure

The Postal Inspection Service is seeking your assistance to collect information on an important matter regarding our package processing and transportation networks.

Due to an increase in the reporting of the number of leaking packages containing liquids, the Product Classification Group in collaboration with the Inspection Service's Hazardous Materials Program made several proposed changes to the language related to the packaging of liquids in section 601.3.4 of the Domestic Mail Manual (See current wording at: <https://pe.usps.com/text/dmm300/601.htm#ep1211902>).

These proposed changes were announced in the Federal Register on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Reference: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/07/09/2018-14382/new-mailing-standards-for-mailpieces-containing-liquids>).

This brief survey is being conducted to collect critical information on the potential impact, both financially and operationally, that leaking liquid parcels have on Postal operations as a whole. This information may be used in constructing a response to the public comments received as a result of this notice.

Please take a few moments to complete the survey using this link:

**Click to Respond → [Number of Leaking Parcels Survey](#)**

Once you have entered all of the information, please ensure that you click the "Finish" button in order to submit your response:



(Please note that the survey data are being collected by Homeland Security Coordinator Gerald Gales out of Detroit. This is the reason for the re-direct to the Great Lakes District SharePoint.)

Thank you for your time and cooperation with respect to this important matter.

## Number of Leaking Parcels Survey Guide - Sample Survey Entry Below

Use the drop down box and select your District

In the boxes provided, type in your post office/facility name and your Zipcode.

These questions require an actual number to be entered in the box. If there are none, please enter "0" in the box.

Optional Notes Box: Please type in the box pertinent or additional information relevant to the leak incident(s).

After reviewing your entries, YOU MUST click the Finish button below or above the survey page, to submit your Survey.

Finish Cancel

District Name  
DETROIT

Office Name  
Dearborn Heights

Zip Code ^  
48127

Number of Leaking Parcels in the past 6 months?  
Note: If none, please enter '0'  
10

Number of man hours accrued due to Leaking incidents  
Note: If none, please enter '0'  
30

What was the estimated cost incurred for cleanup?  
Note: If none, please enter '0'  
1,500

Number of mail pieces that were damaged by leaking parcels (estimate if known)?  
Note: If none, please enter '0'  
3

Packaging material costs for rewrap (estimate if known)  
Note: if none, please enter '0'  
500

Number of estimated pieces that were UPS and FedEx packages?  
Note: If none, please enter '0'  
2

Number of estimated pieces that were Amazon packages?  
Note: If none, please enter '0'  
6

(Optional) Additional Notes:  
(E.G. retailer/mailer Name if known, hazardous or non-hazardous, presence of HAZMAT labels, DMI response required, etc...)  
Majority of the packages that leaked were coming from Amazon. 2 packages originated from an essential oil company shipping via Ebay.  
1 leaking incident, substance was undetermined, warranted USPS involvement. Inspectors were called via 1-877-876-2455 and a DMI inspector responded.

Finish Cancel