

# 9 Inquiries, Indemnities, and Refunds

## 910 Reports Encouraged

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Customers are urged to report losses, nondelivery, or mistreatment of mail, even though there may be no provision for indemnity. Such reports can lead to improved service.

## 920 Inquiries and Claims

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### 921 Inquiries

#### 921.1 Definition

“Inquiry” is a general term that includes:

- a. Requests concerning the disposition of an item mailed to or from a foreign country.
- b. Complaints or reports concerning the loss, damage, missing contents, or improper delivery or return of an item mailed to or from a foreign country.

#### 921.2 Initiating an Inquiry

Inquiries can be initiated for Global Express Guaranteed (GXG) items, Priority Mail Express International items, Priority Mail International items, and registered items. Inquiries are not accepted for ordinary letters or M-bags. Customers must wait a reasonable amount of time for an international item to be delivered in the foreign country before initiating an inquiry. Customers must initiate inquiries within the time limits in [Exhibit 921.2](#).

## Exhibit 921.2

**Time Limits for Inquiries**

Product or Extra Service	Who	When to File an Inquiry (from mailing date)	
		No Sooner Than	No Later Than
Global Express Guaranteed (GXG) <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Sender Only	3 days <sup>2</sup>	30 days
Priority Mail Express International	U.S. Sender Only	3 days <sup>2</sup>	90 days
Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee <sup>3</sup>	U.S. Sender Only	3 days <sup>2</sup>	30 days
Priority Mail International or Registered Mail	Sender or Addressee <sup>4</sup>	7 days	6 months

1. The Postal Service does not process online inquiries and claims for Global Express Guaranteed service. To initiate a claim, call 800-222-1811.

2. No sooner than 3 days or the scheduled date of delivery.

3. For a list of participating countries, refer to 221.2.

4. Only the U.S. sender can initiate an online inquiry.

921.3 **How to Initiate an Inquiry**921.31 **Online Inquiry**

To initiate an International Inquiry Online at [usps.com/help/claims.htm](https://usps.com/help/claims.htm), the customer must be the U.S. sender and a registered usps.com account holder — U.S. senders without a registered usps.com account must create an account at the beginning of the online inquiry process (see [921.41](#)). Also, the customer must do the following:

- a. Create an International Inquiry Online within the time limits listed in [Exhibit 921.2](#).
- b. Provide information regarding the mailing, including but not limited to the following:
  - (1) The USPS Tracking number that appears on the receipt.
  - (2) The sender's name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number.
  - (3) The addressee's name and mailing address.
  - (4) The addressee's email address and telephone number, if available.
  - (5) The date of the mailing, weight, postage paid, and additional fees (if applicable).
  - (6) A description of the contents.
  - (7) Evidence of mailing.
  - (8) Evidence of value.

921.32 **Telephone Inquiry**

To start the inquiry process by telephone (see [921.42](#)), the customer must be the U.S. sender. Also, the customer must do the following:

- a. Call 800-222-1811 within the time limits listed in [Exhibit 921.2](#).

- b. Provide information regarding the mailing, including but not limited to the following:
  - (1) The USPS Tracking number that appears on the receipt.
  - (2) The sender's name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number.
  - (3) The addressee's name and mailing address.
  - (4) The addressee's email address and telephone number, if available.
  - (5) The date of the mailing, weight, postage paid, and additional fees (if applicable).
  - (6) A description of the contents and its value.

#### 921.4 **Inquiry Process**

##### 921.41 **Online Inquiry Process**

After the Postal Service customer provides the relevant mailing information and documentation online, the following occurs:

- a. The International Research Group corresponds with the appropriate foreign post and advises the customer of the results by updating the customer's online inquiry. For inquiries on Priority Mail International items or Registered Mail items, customers must allow foreign posts approximately 60 days to research and respond to the International Research Group.
- b. When the International Research Group determines that an inquiry is eligible for a claim, it changes the claim status to "Claim Sent for Review" and emails the customer a notification of a change in claim status.
- c. After the International Research Group notifies the customer, the Accounting Service Center begins the claims process.

##### 921.42 **Telephone Inquiry Process**

After the Postal Service customer provides the relevant mailing information by telephone, the following occurs:

- a. The International Research Group corresponds with the appropriate foreign post and advises the customer of the results of the inquiry. For inquiries on Priority Mail International items or Registered Mail items, customers must allow foreign posts approximately 60 days to research and respond to the International Research Group.
- b. When the International Research Group determines that an inquiry is eligible for a claim, it mails a claim packet to the customer. The packet includes a letter of instruction on how to complete and submit the claim by mail.
- c. After the Accounting Service Center receives the completed claim packet, the claims process begins.

**921.5 General Procedures****921.51 Nondelivery**

The U.S. Postal Service will initiate an inquiry within the timeframes specified in [921.2](#) with the destination postal administration in any case involving a Priority Mail Express International item, a registered item, or a Priority Mail International item that has not been delivered. Inquiries are not accepted for ordinary letters or M-bags. For nondelivery of Global Express Guaranteed shipments, see [212.46](#).

**921.52 Return Receipts Improperly Completed or Not Received**

If the sender receives an improperly completed return receipt (see [341](#) for completion at destination) or if a return receipt is not received, the sender may go to any Post Office and request a refund of the return receipt extra service fee. If the sender wants to inquire about the delivery of the article, the sender must call 800-222-1811 to initiate an inquiry (see [921.1](#)).

**921.53 Priority Mail Express International Items, Registered Mail Items, and Insured and Ordinary Parcels With Damaged or Missing Contents**

Customers must go to a Post Office to report items that are damaged or are missing contents. Postal personnel should complete PS Form 673, *Report of Rifled Parcel*, in accordance with POM 169.3 or PS Form 2856, *Damage Report of Insured Article and Contents*, in accordance with POM 146.112 for international and/or domestic articles as applicable.

**921.54 Wrapper Found Without Contents****921.541 Parcels of Domestic Origin**

When the contents of a parcel of domestic origin become separated from the wrapper, Postal Service personnel should inform the sender in accordance with the instructions on PS Form 3760, *Parcel Search Request*.

**921.542 Parcels of Foreign Origin**

If the parcel is of foreign origin, send PS Form 3760, appropriately modified, to the addressee.

922 **Claims**

922.1 **General Description**

A claim is a request by a U.S. Postal Service customer for an indemnity payment that resulted from the loss, damage, or missing contents of a GXG, Priority Mail Express International, or registered item, or an insured or ordinary parcel. See [222.61](#), [320](#), [330](#), and Individual Country Listings for information on indemnity limits. See [930](#) and [940](#) for information on indemnity payments and postage refunds.

922.2 **Filing a Claim**

Claims may be filed for GXG, Priority Mail Express International, registered items, and insured and ordinary parcels as noted in [Exhibit 922.2](#). Claims may not be filed for ordinary letters or M-bags. Claims for registered items and insured and ordinary parcels may not be filed until after an inquiry has been completed in accordance with the procedures in [921](#). Claims for items that have damaged or missing contents should be filed immediately. Claims for registered items and insured and ordinary parcels that are lost, or that are delivered to the addressee in damaged condition or with missing contents, are payable to the sender, unless the sender waives the right to payment, in writing, in favor of the addressee. All claims for inbound international registered items and insured and ordinary parcels received in damaged condition or with missing contents must be supported by PS Form 2856. If the addressee does not accept delivery and the item is returned to the sender, the sender will be the payee.

Exhibit 922.2

**Filing Claims**

<b>Product or Extra Service</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>For Information About Your Claim</b>
Global Express Guaranteed (GXG)	U.S. Sender Only	800-222-1811
Priority Mail Express International or Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee	U.S. Sender Only	866-974-2733
Priority Mail International, insured or ordinary parcels, or Registered Mail	U.S. Sender or Addressee	866-974-2733

**Note:** A U.S. sender in possession of an article in damaged condition or with missing contents must immediately present the article, mailing container, wrapping, packaging, and any other contents to a Post Office for inspection, retention, and disposition in accordance with the inquiry procedures and claims policies. Customers in receipt of an item from Canada that is in damaged condition or has some or all of its contents missing must instruct the Canadian sender to file a claim.

922.3 **Claims Process**

922.31 **Determination of Claim**

When there is a determination that an item was lost or has damaged or missing contents, the customer will receive PS Form 2855, *International Claim for Indemnity*.

**922.32 Evidence of Indemnity Coverage**

Indemnity claims for GXG, Priority Mail Express International, Registered Mail, and insured and ordinary parcels must be supported as follows:

- a. If mailed in the United States:
  - (1) For Global Express Guaranteed items, the original or a copy of the mailing receipt or a copy of the GXG Air Waybill (shipping label).
  - (2) For Priority Mail Express International items, the original or a copy of the mailing receipt or the sender's copy of the PS Form 2976-B, *Priority Mail Express International Shipping Label and Customs Form*.
  - (3) For ordinary parcels, the original or a copy of the mailing receipt or the sender's copy of the PS Form 2976-A, *Customs Declaration and Dispatch Note — CP 72*.
  - (4) For registered items and insured parcels, the original or a copy of the mailing receipt or the sender's copy of PS Form 2976-A, *Customs Declaration and Dispatch Note — CP 72*, issued at the time of mailing.

**Note:** The term “copy” denotes a replica of the document, such as a scan, photograph, or photocopy. While a copy is generally acceptable as noted above, in certain circumstances, the original document may be required.

- b. If mailed from a foreign country: The mailing receipt or the customs label, the wrapper, and any other markings or endorsements on the mailing container that indicate how it was sent.

**Note:** Mailing particulars must also be verified with the country of origin before a claim can be settled.

**922.33 Evidence of Value**

The customer must submit acceptable evidence to establish the cost or value of the article at the time it was mailed. Other evidence may be requested to help determine an accurate value. Examples of acceptable evidence include:

- a. Sales receipt, invoice, or statement of value from a reputable dealer.
- b. Customer's own statement describing the lost or damaged article, including the date and place of purchase, the amount paid, and whether new or used (only if a sales receipt, invoice, or statement of value from a reputable dealer is not available). If the article is handmade, the statement must include the price of the materials and labor used. The statement must describe the article in enough detail to determine whether the value claimed is accurate.
- c. Picture from a catalog showing the value of a similar article (only if a sales receipt, invoice, or statement of value from a reputable dealer is not available). The date and place of purchase must be included.
- d. Paid repair bills, if the claim is for partial damage; estimates of repair costs or appraisals from a reputable dealer. Repair costs may not exceed the original purchase price.

- e. Receipt or invoice of costs incurred for the reconstruction of nonnegotiable documents.

#### 922.4 **Processing Claims for Damaged or Missing Contents**

##### 922.41 **Customer**

The customer must:

- a. Present the damaged article, mailing container, wrapping, packaging, and any other contents received to any Post Office for inspection.
- b. Complete all fields on PS Form 2855.

##### 922.42 **Postal Service**

Postal Service personnel must:

- a. Verify that all applicable fields on PS Form 2855 are complete.
- b. Prepare a damage report on PS Form 2856, *Damage Report of Insured Article and Contents*, detailing the condition of the item at the time of delivery, and indicate whether or not the item was properly packaged to withstand normal handling in international mail.
- c. Attach the damage report and the documentation described in [922.3](#) to the claim.
- d. Send PS Form 2855 and related documents, including the customs label and the wrapper, if appropriate, to the following address:

INTERNATIONAL CLAIMS  
ACCOUNTING SERVICES  
PO BOX 80146  
ST LOUIS MO 63180-0146

#### 923 **Disposition of Damaged Mail**

Dispose of damaged Registered Mail, insured parcels, and ordinary parcels for which claims have been filed as follows:

- a. International Registered Mail (except Canadian Registered Mail — see [923b](#)) must be returned to the customer, whether or not the article has salvage value.
- b. International insured parcels, ordinary parcels, and Canadian Registered Mail:
  - (1) If the claim is for *partial* damage, return the article to the customer.
  - (2) If the claim is for *total damage and the article has salvage value* (\$25.00 or more), retain the article and the packaging at the Post Office facility until the claim is settled and disposition instructions are received from Accounting Services. Provide the customer a copy of PS Form 3831, *Receipt for Article(s) Damaged in Mails*. Endorse the original receipt “Claim Filed [date],” date-stamp it, and initial it. Return the receipt to the customer. Instruct the customer to keep the receipt until the claim is settled. If the claim is denied, the article must be returned to the customer after all time frames for appeals have elapsed (see [931.3](#)).

- (3) If the claim is for *total damage and the article has no salvage value* (under \$25.00), return the article to the customer, or with the customer's consent, dispose of the article with the understanding that the Postal Service will assume no responsibility if the claim is denied.

## 930 Indemnity Payments

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### 931 **Adjudication and Approval**

#### 931.1 **When to Be Instituted**

Claims for indemnity are initiated upon receipt of a completed PS Form 2855 with appropriate documentation by International Claims, Accounting Services, PO Box 80146, St. Louis, MO 63180-0146.

#### 931.2 **International Claims**

#### 931.21 **Indemnity Claims for International Registered Mail, Insured Parcels, and Ordinary Parcels of U.S. and Foreign Origin**

Indemnity claims relating to international Registered Mail and insured and ordinary parcels of both U.S. and foreign origin are adjudicated by Accounting Services in St. Louis, Missouri.

#### 931.22 **Country of Origin Pays Indemnity**

Payment is made as follows:

- a. Express Mail claims are paid by the country of origin to the sender. Payments to U.S. senders will be made by the U.S. Postal Service.
- b. Indemnity for the loss of Registered Mail and insured and ordinary parcels is paid by the country of origin to the sender. Payments to U.S. senders will be made by the U.S. Postal Service. The sender may waive the right to payment, in writing, in favor of the addressee. Payment in such cases will be made by the destination administration.
- c. Claims for items delivered in damaged condition or with missing contents are paid by the country of origin to the sender. The U.S. Postal Service makes payments to U.S. senders. The sender may waive the right to payment, in writing, in favor of the addressee. In such a case, the destination administration makes payment to the addressee.
- d. Claims for items mailed from foreign countries that are lost or that are delivered in damaged condition or with missing contents are paid by the origin administration to the sender. The sender may waive the right to payment, in writing, in favor of the U.S. addressee. In such a case, the U.S. Postal Service pays the U.S. addressee.



**931.3 Appeals****931.31 Appealing a Claims Decision**

A customer may appeal a claims decision by filing a written appeal within 60 days of the date of the original decision. The customer must send the appeal directly to International Claims Appeals, Accounting Services, PO Box 80146, St. Louis, MO 63180-0146.

**931.32 Final Postal Service Decision of Claims**

If the manager of International Claims Appeals at the St. Louis ASC sustains the denial of a claim, the customer may submit an additional appeal within 60 days for final review and decision to the Consumer Advocate, International Claim Appeals, 475 L'Enfant Plz SW Rm 10343, Washington, DC 20260-2200, who may waive standards in favor of the customer.

**932 General Exceptions to Payment – Registered Mail and Priority Mail International Parcels**

Indemnity may not be paid:

- a. In excess of the limit prescribed for the insurance or registry fee paid or greater than that corresponding to the actual amount of loss (except Registered Mail service), damage, or the missing contents. Allowance must be made for depreciation or for needed repairs, and in the absence of purchase receipts or invoices, the contents must be described in sufficient detail.
- b. When an item cannot be accounted for due to the destruction of service records by *force majeure*.
- c. When the contents are prohibited.
- d. For an item seized by customs or any other government agency.
- e. When no inquiry or application has been made by the claimant or a representative within 6 months, commencing with the day following the mailing of the item. In the case of insured mail with Canada, however, the time limit may be waived when it is satisfactorily established that the delay was unavoidable and not the fault of the claimant.
- f. For damage that results from the characteristics of the contents — that is, its inability, due to its nature, to withstand the ordinary incidents of the contemplated carriage.
- g. When full compensation or reimbursement has otherwise been made by the U.S. Postal Service or by any outside firm or corporation whatsoever except on a pro rata basis as coinsurer.
- h. For sentimental values arising from association. Also, in the absence of a complete description, the claimant must satisfactorily establish the ordinary market value at the time of mailing, particularly in the case of heirlooms or antiques.
- i. For an amount in excess of the maximum prescribed for the insurance or registry fee paid, unless responsibility rests with the United States and it is shown to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General that the sender was charged a fee less than that required to cover the amount

of indemnity desired, through error on the part of the U.S. Postal Service. On such a showing, the deficiency in fee may be collected from the sender and postal indemnity paid, within the limit fixed for the higher fee.

## 933 **Payments for Priority Mail International Parcels**

### 933.1 **General Provisions**

#### 933.11 **Payment of Indemnity**

Priority Mail International shipments are covered by document reconstruction and merchandise insurance in case of loss, damage, or missing contents. Indemnity will be paid by the Postal Service as specified in DMM 503.4 and 609, subject to the exclusions in IMM [933.12](#).

Indemnity may be paid as follows:

- a. For loss, damage, or missing contents, based on the actual value of articles at the time and place of mailing.
- b. To the sender, or to the addressee if the sender waives the right to payment, in writing, in favor of the addressee.

#### 933.12 **Indemnity Will Not Be Paid**

In addition to the general exceptions to payment described in [932](#), indemnity will not be paid in the following instances:

- a. When other countries report delivery of parcels without external trace of damage or missing contents and acceptance by the addressee or an agent without reservation concerning the condition of the contents, and when delivery was made under conditions prescribed by the domestic regulations of the country of destination for mail of the same kind or on presentation of a regular postal identity card.
- b. When loss, damage, or missing contents has been caused by the fault or negligence of the sender or the addressee or the representative of either, such as failure to endorse the parcel conspicuously to show the nature of the contents or to provide adequate packing for the length of the journey and for the protection of the contents.
- c. When the claimant, with intent to defraud, has declared the contents of a parcel to be above their real value.
- d. For parcels that:
  - (1) Contain matter of no intrinsic value.
  - (2) Contain matter that did not conform to applicable postal conventions.
  - (3) Were not posted in the manner prescribed. In the event of loss, damage, or missing contents of mail erroneously accepted for insurance to other countries, limited indemnity may be paid as if it had been addressed to a domestic destination — i.e., on the basis of the indemnity limits for domestic insured mail. If postage was erroneously collected at other than a parcel price, but the

parcel was otherwise properly accepted for insurance, indemnity may be paid pursuant to the general provisions of this section and the special provisions of [933.2](#).

- e. For indirect loss or loss of profits.
- f. For an amount in excess of the maximum prescribed for the insurance fee paid, unless full or partial responsibility rests with the other country and the sender requested full coverage at the time of mailing, but a deficient and unauthorized insurance fee was collected. In such case, the sender must be paid for full value, less the amount of the deficient fee, but not exceeding the limit fixed for the appropriate insurance fee.
- g. When evidence of insurance coverage has not been presented.

933.13 **Priority Mail International Parcels — Indemnity Limitations**

When additional merchandise insurance has not been purchased, coverage is limited to the actual value of the contents or \$200, whichever is less. Document reconstruction insurance is limited to the actual cost of document reconstruction or \$100, whichever is less.

933.14 **Priority Mail International Parcels — Exceptions to Indemnity**

In addition to the general exceptions to payment described in [932](#), indemnity may not be paid:

- a. For parcels containing prohibited articles.
- b. For consequential losses, delay, concealed damage, spoilage of perishable items, articles improperly packaged, and articles too fragile to withstand normal handling in the mail.
- c. When other countries report delivery of parcels without external trace of damage or missing contents and acceptance by the addressee or an agent without reservation concerning the condition of the contents, and when delivery was made under conditions prescribed by the domestic regulations of the country of destination for mail of the same kind or on presentation of a regular postal identity card.
- d. When loss, damage, or missing contents has been caused by the fault or negligence of the sender or the addressee or the representative of either, such as failure to endorse the parcel conspicuously to show the nature of the contents or to provide adequate packing for the length of the journey and for the protection of the contents.
- e. When the claimant, with intent to defraud, has declared the contents of a parcel to be above their real value.
- f. For indirect loss or loss of profits.
- g. When evidence of the value of the ordinary indemnity coverage on an ordinary parcel has not been presented.

933.2 **Special Provisions**

The sender may be paid only such indemnity for loss, damage, or missing contents occurring after redispach by the original country of address to a third country, if the country in which the mistreatment occurred is willing or obliged to pay under any agreement between the countries involved.

## 934 **Payments for Registered Mail**

### 934.1 **General Provisions**

#### 934.11 **Indemnity Paid by Country of Origin**

For registered items, the country of origin pays the sender indemnity for loss, damage, or missing contents according to [934.2](#).

#### 934.12 **Parcels Erroneously Accepted as Registered Mail**

If a parcel is accepted in error as Registered Mail, indemnity may be paid under the conditions in [934.2](#).

#### 934.13 **Limitations to Indemnity Payment**

In addition to the general exceptions to payment described in [932](#), the following limitations to indemnity payments apply:

- a. For loss, damage, or missing contents of an outbound or an inbound registered item, indemnity will not be paid to anyone in the United States other than the sender, unless the sender waives payment, in writing, in favor of the addressee. In such a case, the destination administration makes payment to the addressee.
- b. For a domestic registered item that bears a foreign return address and that is forwarded under [762.2](#), indemnity will not be paid in excess of the limits in [934.2](#).

#### 934.14 **Indemnity Paid by Country of Destination**

When the sender waives the right to payment, in writing, in favor of the addressee, the country of destination pays the addressee indemnity for loss, damage, or missing contents.

### 934.2 **Special Provisions**

Regardless of the declared value of a registered item, the maximum amount of indemnity payable for loss, damage, or missing contents is \$39.86.

## 935 **Payments for Priority Mail Express International**

### 935.1 **When Authorized**

Priority Mail Express International shipments are covered by document reconstruction and merchandise insurance in case of loss, damage, or missing contents. Indemnity will be paid by the Postal Service as specified in DMM 609 and 503 and IMM [222.61](#) and [935.2](#).

### 935.2 **When Prohibited**

Indemnity for Priority Mail Express International items will not be paid:

- a. For delay in delivery.
- b. When the contents are prohibited.
- c. For any items seized by customs or any other government agency.
- d. When no inquiry or claim has been made by the mailer within 90 days from the date of mailing.

- e. For damage that results from the quality of the contents — that is, its inability, due to its nature, to withstand the ordinary incidents of international Express Mail carriage. See DMM 609.
- f. When delivery was made under conditions prescribed for Express Mail items by the country of destination.
- g. When evidence of mailing has not been presented.
- h. For any reason specified in DMM 609.

## 940 Postage Refunds

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### 941 **Postage Refunds for First-Class Mail International, First-Class Package International Service, and Priority Mail International**

#### 941.1 **General**

A refund may be made when postage, extra service fees, or other return charges have been paid on the following First-Class Mail International, First-Class Package International Service, and Priority Mail International items:

- a. Items for which full service was not rendered.
- b. Items for which the customer made payment in excess of the proper price.
- c. Undeliverable-as-addressed items under [771.51](#) for which return charges were incorrectly assessed.

#### 941.2 **Applications by Senders**

Senders requesting postage refunds should submit to the postmaster at the office at which the items were mailed:

- a. An application on PS Form 3533, *Application and Voucher for Refund of Postage, Fees, and Services*, in duplicate.
- b. When available, the envelope or wrapper, or the portion thereof having names and addresses of sender and addressee, canceled postage, and postal markings.
- c. Any other evidence of payment of the amount of postage, fees, or charges for which refund is desired.

#### 941.3 **Processing Refund Applications**

##### 941.31 **Items Originating in United States**

When the refund request relates to mail originating in the United States and there is no reason to believe that the other country is at fault, process the application as prescribed in DMM 604.

##### 941.32 **Items Originating in a Country Other Than the United States**

When there is reason to believe that the other country is at fault, or when the request relates to mail originating in another country, tell the customer to have the sender contact the foreign country's postal service about postage refund options.

## 942 Postage Refunds for Priority Mail Express International Items

### 942.1 Who May File

File requests for refunds as follows:

- a. U.S. senders of Priority Mail Express International items must complete the inquiry process (see [922](#)) before filing for a postage refund. The customer must initiate an inquiry within 90 days of the date of mailing by calling 800-222-1811 or going to International Inquiry Online at [usps.com/help/claims.htm](https://usps.com/help/claims.htm).
- b. U.S. senders of Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee service items that did not meet the scheduled delivery date must initiate a request for postage refund no later than 30 days from the date of mailing by calling 800-222-1811 or by going to International Inquiry Online at [usps.com/help/claims.htm](https://usps.com/help/claims.htm).

### 942.2 Conditions

#### 942.21 Priority Mail Express International Refunds

The Postal Service will refund postage of Priority Mail Express International items only when:

- a. The inquiry process has confirmed that total loss, damage, or missing contents of a Priority Mail Express International item has occurred.
- b. The customer has initiated an inquiry within the requisite 90-day filing period.
- c. The postmaster has received verification from the Product Tracking System (PTS) or the International Research Group that loss, damage, or missing contents has occurred.
- d. The customer has received PS Form 3533, *Application and Voucher for Refund of Postage, Fees, and Services*.

#### 942.22 Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee Refunds

The Postal Service will refund postage of Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee service items only when:

- a. The customer has initiated a request for postage refund within the requisite 30-day filing period.
- b. The International Research Group received confirmation from the foreign postal administration that the item did not meet the specified delivery standard.
- c. The customer has received PS Form 3533-GE, *Application for Refund of Postage for Priority Mail Express International With Guarantee Service*.

**942.3 Applications by Senders****942.31 Priority Mail Express International Refunds**

For Priority Mail Express International refunds, mailers requesting postage refunds must submit the following items to the postmaster at the office at which the item was mailed:

- a. An application on PS Form 3533 in duplicate.
- b. A copy of the mailer's receipt or the mailing label showing evidence of the amount of postage for which refund is desired.

**942.32 Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee Refunds**

For Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee service refunds, mailers requesting postage refunds must submit the following items to the address noted below:

- a. An application on PS Form 3533-GE.
- b. A copy of the mailer's receipt or the mailing label showing the guaranteed delivery date and the amount of postage paid.

Mailers must submit these items to the following address:

SCANNING AND IMAGING CENTER  
US POSTAL SERVICE  
PO BOX 5212  
JANESVILLE WI 53547-5212

**942.4 Processing of Refund**

Priority Mail Express International postage refund requests are processed under DMM 604. The mailer must complete Part I of PS Form 3533 in duplicate and submit it, along with the original customer copy of the mailing label (Label 11-B, *Express Mail Post Office to Addressee*), to any Post Office facility. Refund requests for Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee service are processed when a customer submits PS Form 3533-GE with appropriate documentation (see [942.2](#)) to the following address:

SCANNING AND IMAGING CENTER  
US POSTAL SERVICE  
PO BOX 5212  
JANESVILLE WI 53547-5212

**942.5 Unallowable Refunds — Priority Mail Express International With No Service Guarantee****942.51 Postage Refunds — Priority Mail Express International**

Refunds for Priority Mail Express International will *not* be made for the following:

- a. Delayed Priority Mail Express International items.
- b. When the item contained prohibited matter.
- c. When the item has been seized or confiscated by customs or any other government agency of the destination country.

**942.52 Unallowable Refunds — Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee Service**

Refunds will *not* be made for the following:

- a. Delivery was attempted but could not be made.
- b. The delivery address or postal code was incomplete or inaccurate.
- c. The item was detained or delayed by customs or any other government or law enforcement agency of the destination country.
- d. The item had to be forwarded to another address.
- e. Delay resulted from any defect or characteristic due to the nature of the shipment, even if known to USPS at acceptance.
- f. The item was delayed by any circumstance beyond the control of USPS and the foreign postal administration, acts of God, *force majeure*, terrorist activities, strikes, labor actions, war, insurrection, or civil disobedience.
- g. The item was held by customs at origin or destination for more than 24 hours. If the item was held by customs for less than 24 hours, the guarantee may be adjusted to account for the delay by customs.
- h. The item was not deposited at a designated USPS mail facility.

**942.53 Consequential Damages**

USPS is not liable for consequential or special damages or other indirect loss. Consequential damage or loss includes but is not limited to loss of income, profit, interest, markets, and use of contents. See DMM 609 and 503 and IMM 221.3 and 935.2 for limitations of indemnity coverage.

**943 Processing Refund Applications****943.1 Items Originating in the United States**

Requests for refunds for ordinary letters and for Registered Mail, Priority Mail International, Priority Mail Express International, and Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee service originating in the United States are handled as follows:

- a. If there is no reason to believe that the other country is at fault, process the application under DMM 604.
- b. If there is reason to believe a registered, insured, or ordinary parcel originating in the United States was returned in error, or if the parcel was returned with no annotation showing reason for return, call 800-222-1811 to initiate an inquiry.
- c. Customers whose Priority Mail Express International With Money-Back Guarantee service did not meet the guaranteed delivery date must call 800-222-1811 within 30 days of the date of mailing to request a postage refund form (PS Form 3533-GE).

**943.2 Items Originating in a Country Other Than the United States**

When there is reason to believe that the other country is at fault, or when the request relates to mail originating in another country, have the customer contact the sender to start an inquiry with the foreign country's postal service.