

December 30, 2024

VICE PRESIDENTS, AREA RETAIL AND DELIVERY OPERATIONS

VICE PRESIDENTS, REGIONAL PROCESSING OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: **Operations Policy for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday,**

 **Monday, January 20, 2025**

This memorandum provides general operating policy and holiday planning guidance for the upcoming 2025 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday (observed on Monday, January 20, 2025). Service levels for this holiday are displayed in Exhibit 125.22 of the *Postal Operations Manual* (POM).

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** is a non-widely observed holiday, which means that many businesses are open and producing outgoing mail. District Managers will coordinate with plant partners and perform full collections if cancellations are scheduled. Collection times must be performed as close to the latest posted pick-up time as possible. District Managers must also coordinate with Logistics to ensure adequate transportation is scheduled to transport all collected mail. Personnel on duty should check collection boxes at Post Office, lobby drops and Self-Service Kiosks (SSKs) for overflow on Monday, January 20, 2025.

**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 to these plans must be completed with accuracy.

**Tuesday, January 14, 2025:**

* Local management should review the Route Book for the following week’s holiday drop times by our same day mailers. Route Books will be sent from the External Customer Integration Team via the SharePoint below and My Post Office (MyPO) certification link:

[**HQ External Customer Integration (sharepoint.com)**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fusps365.sharepoint.com%2Fsites%2FHQExternalCustomerIntegration&data=05%7C01%7CChandria.Z.Perry%40usps.gov%7Ccd630ccd7a934d2d7e4908da876c3ccc%7Cf9aa5788eb334a498ad076101910cac3%7C0%7C0%7C637971196183262241%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2B%2FsIvFqIxXDVoNMg5yOMHULx%2F7uCZVSzL%2Fr5XHxZUOo%3D&reserved=0)

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

**Saturday, January 18, 2025:**

In addition to regular (Saturday) 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.

**Sunday, January 19, 2025:**

* 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.
* Sunday eligible Amazon Night Owls will be scheduled and must be staffed Sunday night into Monday.
* **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.**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday, “Non-Widely Observed”, Monday, January 20, 2025:**

* There will be no regular delivery service except for Holiday Premium Priority Mail Express and Holiday Same Day Package Delivery (HUB and spoke structures).
	+ **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 Amazon Night Owl drops at all Sunday eligible locations for same day holiday delivery.
* Walmart will drop to Sunday/Holiday sites for same day holiday delivery:
	+ Walmart will utilize the Sunday Route Book times for holiday drops.
* Please review all major mailer Route Books for holiday drop times.
* EAS must use DMS, when available, to confirm proper scanning and delivery of Holiday Same Day parcels has been completed at all locations.
* Collection Operations:
	+ District Managers will coordinate with plant partners and perform full collections if cancelations are scheduled.
	+ Collection times must be performed as close to the last posted pick up time as possible.
	+ District Mangers will coordinate with Logistics to ensure adequate transportation is scheduled to transport all collected mail.
	+ Collections must start and run-on time to meet the Dispatch of Value (DOV) to the mail processing facilities.

**Tuesday, January 21, 2025:**

Return to normal 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.

**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 consumables and supplies are fully stockedand 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 Martin Luther King Jr. 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.

**Saturday, January 18:** Normal (Saturday) 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 to ADUSSDUSSortPlanRequests@usps.gov by Thursday, January 16.
* 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 and 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 (1/14/25) 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:**

DDI Selections:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date Packages are****SCANNED** | **Date Packages will be DELIVERED** | **DDI Selection** |
| Saturday, January 18, 2025 | Sat – January 18 | Today |
| Sun – January 19 | Sunday  |
| Mon – January 20 | Holiday  |
| Tue – January 21 | Next Day\*  |
| Sunday, January 19, 2025 | Sun – January 19 | Sunday  |
| Mon – January 20 | Holiday  |
| Tue – January 21 | Next Day\*  |
| Monday, January 20, 2025 | Mon – January 20 | Holiday  |
| Tue – January 21 | Next Day\* |
| Tuesday, January 21, 2025 | Tue – January 21 | Today  |
| Wed – January 22 | Tomorrow  |

**\*** Used for processing packages on the current day, BUT have a Delivery Date for the Next Day

**Sunday, January 19:** Normal (Sunday) service levels will be provided including Sunday/Holiday Priority Express and Sunday/Holiday Same Day package processing and delivery in Hub/Spoke structure.

* 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 schedulesEnsure all MTE is prepped and dispatched to plant partners.

**Monday, January 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday, “Non-Widely Observed”:**

* Retail services will not be available, except in those facilities normally open on this holiday.
* Post offices should provide post office box access for customers to the maximum extent possible.
* 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.
* District Integrated Operating Plan Specialists should review District and local surface and air transportation network holiday schedules. If networks are operating, ensure major mailers are contacted to make certain volumes are collected and inducted into the system in a timely manner.
* District Integrated Operating Plan Specialists should work in conjunction with local processing and transportation personnel to ensure IOP agreements are being followed and MAQ/PAQ anomalies are being recorded properly.
	+ Amazon will drop to all Sunday Amazon HUB sites on Monday for holiday HUB delivery. Night Owls will be scheduled. Review route book for scheduled drop times.
	+ Walmart will drop to Sunday HUB sites on Monday for holiday delivery. Walmart will utilize the Sunday route book times for Monday drops.
	+ Review Major Mailer route-book drop times to schedule personnel to accept drops in the morning.
	+ “Holiday” configuration must be used as day of week selection in PDTA.
* Ensure all MTE is prepped and dispatched to plant partners.

**Tuesday, January 21:**

* Return to normal service levels. Management should review the SSRD from 1/16/24 (FY24 day-after “observed” Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday) and use recent sales trend information to adjust for local circumstances.
* Check SSK consumables and clear alerts. Ensure supplies are fully stockedand 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**

This holiday presents an opportunity to consolidate and compress plant operations to generate savings while maintaining service performance levels.  In order to take advantage of the savings opportunity, please adhere to the following guidelines:

* There will be NO cancellations on the Monday Holiday.
* Opening Units kept at day zero for Letters and Flats.
* Advance all available blue and orange Marketing Mail for Saturday 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 Sunday and Monday night that ensures an early DPS dispatch for Tuesday delivery.
* Ensure only one DPS run on Tuesday morning (no double runs of DPS).
* Communicate with Marketing and Logistics to leverage mailer volumes available for Holiday pick up and Outgoing processing.
* Decisions for Tuesday early collection plans will be determined locally by Region/Division. (See below instructions relative to processing and dispatching Commercial Mailings).
* Evaluate the processing of Outgoing Packages on the day of the holiday to avoid late clearance on Tuesday. (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 Sunday & Monday

**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 field of FedEx and Dispatch Plan

Plant managers must commit 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 achievement of 24-hour clock indicators.  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 assure that destinating two and three-day 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 coordinator contact information is current. (FAST Facility Profile).

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

Network Distribution Centers (NDCs) also have an opportunity to consolidate and compress operations to generate savings while maintaining service performance levels.  NDCs must utilize the RPG tool to staff operations. NDCs must schedule drop shipment acceptance hours to ensure timely induction, processing and dispatch of mail.

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

**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](https://mtscprod.service-now.com/mtsc_sp?id=mtsc_kb_article&sys_id=4e73dc83db81778070f1f9531f96197a)

Refer to the [Emergency Checklists and Threat Information - Area, District and Mail Processing](https://blue.usps.gov/nationalpreparedness/respond.htm#accordion1s1)

 for critical actions and tasks.

**Additional Information**

* For all power outages, create a ticket on the [MTSC Web Ticket Portal](https://tickets.mtsc.usps.gov) 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 Helpdesk 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 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:

* Use the Run Plan Generator (RPG) for staffing operations.
* Clear any delayed volumes and advance mail where possible.
* Ensure coordination with Customs & Border Protection (CBP) to provide sufficient staffing to avoid backlogs.
* Ensure Customs belts are staffed sufficiently to maximize efficiency.
* Ensure on-time clearance of FC SPRs to avoid surface volume rolling over

Ensure processing and dispatch of Priority throughout the holiday weekend to avoid exceeding lift

**Logistics Operations**

**Air Transportation Network**

* UPS, Commercial Air and FedEx will operate a normal schedule throughout the holiday period.
* Supplemental networks (Amazon, AmeriJet, and Norther Air Cargo) will not operate on Tuesday 1/21/25.

***UPS:***

|  |
| --- |
| **2025 UPS Network Holiday Operations** |
|  |
| ***Non- Widely Observed Holidays*** |
| **Holiday** | **Day of Week** | **Date** | **Postal Volume Tendered** | **Comments** |
|  |
| **Day before** | **Sunday** | **1/19/2025** | **YES** |  |
| **Martin Luther King Day** | **Monday** | **1/20/2025** | **NO** |  |
| **Day after** | **Tuesday** | **1/21/2025** | **YES** | **Normal Tuesday Tender** |
|  | **Wednesday** | **1/22/2025** | **YES** |  |

***Supplemental Networks:***

|  |
| --- |
| **2025 Supplemental Network Holiday Operations** |
|  |
| ***Non-Widely Observed Holidays*** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Holiday** | **Day of Week** | **Date** | **Amazon** | **AmeriJet** | **NAC** |
| **Day before** | **Sunday** | **1/19/2025** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Martin Luther King Day** | **Monday** | **1/20/2025** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Day after** | **Tuesday** | **1/21/2025** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
|  | **Wednesday** | **1/22/2025** | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** |

***FedEx:***

|  |
| --- |
| ***2025 FedEx Network Holiday Operations*** |
|  |
| ***Non-Widely Observed Holidays*** |
|  |
| **Holiday** | **Day of Week** | **Date** | **Night (x67)** | **Comments** |
|  |
| **Day before** | **Sunday** | **1/19/2025** | **NO** |  |
| **Martin Luther King Day** | **Monday** | **1/20/2025** | **YES** | **Normal Monday Tender** |
| **Day after** | **Tuesday** | **1/21/2025** | **YES** |  |
|  | **Wednesday** | **1/22/2025** | **YES** |  |

***CAIR:***

**The canine screening operation schedule for the holiday period is shown below:**

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**Please ensure the volume is picked up from the Freight Houses on Monday 01/20/2025 and processed timely.**

**International Transportation Plan**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Import/Export Plan for the ISC*** |  |  |  |  |
| **Holiday** | **Day of**  | **Date** | **JFK**  | **JFK**  | **ORD** | **ORD** |
| **Week** | **Export** | **Import** | **Export** | **Import** |
| Day before | Sunday | 1/19/2025 | YES | YES | YES | YES |
| **MLK Jr Day** | Monday | 1/20/2025 | YES | YES | YES | YES |
| Day after | Tuesday | 1/21/2025 | YES | YES | YES | YES |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Holiday** | **Day of**  | **Date** | **LAX** | **LAX**  | **MIA** | **MIA** |
| **Week** | **Export** | **Import** | **Export** | **Import** |
| Day before | Sunday | 1/19/2025 | YES | YES | YES | YES |
| **MLK Jr Day** | Monday | 1/20/2025 | YES | YES | YES | YES |
| Day after | Tuesday | 1/21/2025 | YES | YES | YES | YES |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Customs CBP opening plan and hours at the ISC*** |  |  |  |
| **Holiday** | **Day of**  | **Date** | **JFK**  | **JFK**  | **ORD** | **ORD** |
| **Week** | **CBP open** | **CBP hours** | **CBP open** | **CBP hours** |
| Day before | Sunday | 1/19/2025 | YES | 24/7 | YES | 06:00 – 15:00 |
| **MLK Jr Day** | Monday | 1/20/2025 | YES | 24/7 | YES | 06:00 – 15:00 |
| Day after | Tuesday | 1/21/2025 | YES | 24/7 | YES | 06:00 – 15:00 |
|   |   |   |   |   |  |
| **Holiday** | **Day of**  | **Date** | **LAX** | **LAX**  | **MIA** | **MIA** |
| **Week** | **CBP open** | **CBP hours** | **CBP open** | **CBP hours** |
| Day before | Sunday | 1/19/2025 | YES | 06:00 – 14:00 | YES | 06:00 - 22:00 |
| **MLK Jr Day** | Monday | 1/20/2025 | YES | 06:00 - 22:00 | YES | 06:00 - 22:00 |
| Day after | Tuesday | 1/21/2025 | YES  | 06:00 - 22:00 | YES | 06:00 - 22:00 |

**Surface Transportation Network**

Surface Transfer Centers have normal operations for Martin Luther King Jr Holiday:

* Full transportation network runs during holiday

**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.
* Dispatch all mail volume inducted on Sunday and Monday nights into the network on Tuesday to avoid overflow on Wednesday’s network.

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

Thank you for your assistance.



 cc: Joshua D. Colin, Ph.D.

 Isaac S. Cronkhite