UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (USPS) AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AS REPRESENTED BY THE POSTMASTER GENERAL Petitioner,

v.

RETURN MAIL, INC. Patent Owner.

Case CBM2014-00116 Patent 6,826,548

Declaration of Scott M. Nettles, Ph.D. Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.68

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	1.	The '548 claims are a technological improvement		
	2.	The '548 claims meet the "machine or transformation test."		
	3.	The '548 patent claims do not preempt the field		

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I, Scott M. Nettles, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare under penalty of perjury that the following statements are true and correct:

I. QUALIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1. I have been retained in this matter by Return Mail, Inc. (RMI) to provide various opinions regarding U.S. Patent No. 6,826,548 B2 (the '548 patent). I am being compensated at my usual rate of \$550 per hour, plus expenses, which is my standard consulting fee, for my work in this matter. My compensation is not dependent on the outcome of this matter. Nor is my compensation dependent upon the outcome of any related litigation proceedings, the opinions I express, or my testimony. I have no financial interests in RMI.

2. My qualifications are set forth in my curriculum vitae, a copy of which is included as Exhibit 2034. A list of the cases during at least the last five years in which I have signed a Protective Order, have testified as an expert either at a trial, hearing, or deposition, or have submitted statements and/or opinions is also included.

3. I attended Michigan State University from 1977 to 1981 as a Merit Scholar and an Alumni Distinguished Scholar, and received a bachelor's degree in Chemistry. I later attended Carnegie Mellon University from 1988 to 1995, during which time I received both a master's degree (1992) and a Ph.D. (1996) in Computer Science. My dissertation was entitled "Safe and Efficient Persistent Heaps" and focused on high performance automatic storage management for advanced database systems.

4. Before earning my Ph.D., I worked for over four years in industry at Silicon Solutions, Inc. and Digital Equipment Corporation, developing computer aided design (CAD) software for the semiconductor and computer sectors. For example, I designed and implemented systems for VLSI mask generation and VLSI design rule checking. I also built the first graphical drawing editor for the X window system, Artemis, which included a sophisticated graphical user interface.

5. I have worked as a professor at three universities since 1995; the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Arizona, and The University of Texas at Austin. I was the recipient of a National Science Foundation CAREER award for "CAREER: Advancing Experimental Computer Science in Storage Management and Education" while I was an Assistant Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. During this time, I also was part of the DARPA funded SwitchWare project, which was one of the pioneering groups in the area of Active Networking ("AN"). My group developed PLAN, the first domain-specific programming language for programmable packets, as well as PLANet, the first purely active inter-network.

6. I joined the faculty of The University of Texas at Austin ("UT"), in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in 1999. In 2005, I was

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