

OPINION

STATE-TIMES/MORNING ADVOCATE

Priority mail delivery unsatisfactory

“Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.”

So wrote the Greek philosopher Herodotus four-and-a-half centuries before Christ. Obviously, Herodotus had never encountered the postal service in Baton Rouge.

On Dec. 3, urgently needing to put some important legal documents in the hands of our District Attorney’s Office, I opted to use a priority mail flat-rate envelope. I handed it to a clerk on duty that day at the post office in Baker, at a cost of \$4.75.

My documents were not delivered until Dec. 10. It took seven days for them to go from Baker to downtown Baton Rouge, a distance of about 10 miles!

Since I could have posted the item in a plain

envelope with simple first-class postage and received better service (actually, I could have walked it there faster), I contacted the Postal Service to ask a refund of the \$4.75 that I paid for its so-called “priority” service. I was told by “customer service” that they will not give me a refund. My calls to the postmaster regarding a refund have not been returned.

I write this letter to ask that our Louisiana congressional delegation think twice and demand some accountability before appropriating taxpayer funds to prop up this leaking ship.

As citizens of the United States, we are entitled to better postal service than this.

MAURICE FRANKS
lawyer
Baton Rouge