

IMPORTANT

Do you mail time-sensitive material through the USPS?

There are changes to the United States Postal Service **Postmark**
(Effective December 24, 2025)

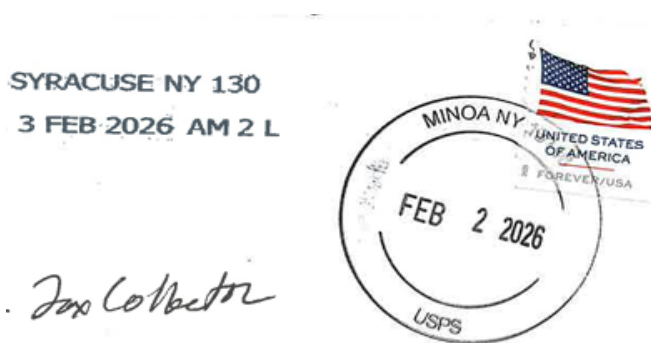
"A postmark is now officially defined as a marking, applied by the USPS to a mailpiece, which displays the location of the processing facility or retail unit that applied the marking." -Excerpt from NYAOT Talk of the Towns & Topics, Jan./Feb. 2026 Issue

A postmark can be applied at a processing facility which will display the date of the first automated processing operation performed on that mailpiece.

OR

A postmark can be applied at a Post Office which will display the date on which the mailpiece was accepted at the Post Office. (this must be requested by sender to USPS Clerk)

****Important – the date that the postal service first takes possession of the mail piece may not align with the date on the postmark.**



Example: If the customer did not have it hand-cancelled at the Minoa Post Office, the automated February 3, 2026 date would be used as the postmark. By the customer going into the Post Office, **it saved them from paying penalty.**

If your mailing relies on a postmark date, the only way to guarantee the date of the postmark is to have the mailpiece hand-cancelled by a Counter Clerk AT AN ACTUAL POST OFFICE LOCATION which confirms the date the Postal Service accepted custody of your mailing.

