

Remove All Messages from Postfix Queue



POSTFIX

Postfix.org

– Mail

Server

I've been decommissioning some old servers recently and this generated quite a bunch of monitoring alerts. So many, in fact, that I have maxed out the free Sendgrid plan I use for sending email alerts. Part of the troubleshooting involved working with Postfix mail server queue, I figured some of you might find this useful.

How To Show Postfix Queue

I wanted to review messages in Postfix mail queue to understand if there was indeed an issue with my free Sendgrid account:

```
root@m:/ # postqueue -p | less
```

```
...
```

```
D2704A84E3 604 Wed Feb 6 14:46:31 nagios@m.ts.im  
(delivery temporarily suspended: SASL authentication failed;  
server smtp.sendgrid.net[159.122.219.55] said: 451  
Authentication failed: Maximum credits exceeded)  
alerts@techstack.ie
```

```
D0842A7563 587 Sun Feb 3 20:30:07 nagios@m.ts.im  
(delivery temporarily suspended: SASL authentication failed;  
server smtp.sendgrid.net[159.122.219.55] said: 451  
Authentication failed: Maximum credits exceeded)  
alerts@techstack.ie
```

```
D36ABA77F6 546 Mon Feb 4 12:39:23 nagios@m.ts.im
(delivery temporarily suspended: SASL authentication failed;
server smtp.sendgrid.net[159.122.219.55] said: 451
Authentication failed: Maximum credits exceeded)
alerts@techstack.ie
```

...

```
-- 7631 Kbytes in 6971 Requests.
```

Ouch! Almost 7 thousand emails which I'll never get (in reasonable time) and don't really need (I know the reason for alerts). So what do to? Let's destroy these.

How To Remove All Messages from Postfix Queue

I'll use the `postsuper` command and specify option `d` (means delete) and `ALL` (means REALLY DELETE ALL MESSAGES IN MY QUEUE):

```
root@m:/ # postsuper -d ALL
postsuper: Deleted: 6971 messages
```

That's much better:

```
root@m:/ # postqueue -p
Mail queue is empty
```

That's it for now! Hope you enjoyed this short article. Let me know if you're using Postfix mail server!

See Also

- [Mail commands in Unix/Linux](#)
- [Unix Reference](#)
- [Unix Commands](#)
- [Postfix website](#)