Department of Justice

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POSTAL EMPLOYEE ARRAIGNED ON CHARGE OF DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

ROCHESTER, N.Y.--A one-count Information has been filed in United States District Court charging DOMINICK FAZZARY, JR., age 41, of Watkins Glen, New York, with knowing disclosure of confidential information by a government employee, announced U.S. Attorney Terrance P. Flynn of the Western District of New York. The charge carries a maximum penalty of one year imprisonment, a fine of \$100,000, or both, and removal from employment.

FAZZARY was arraigned today before United States Magistrate Judge Jonathan W. Feldman and entered a not guilty plea. He was released on his own recognizance.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank H. Sherman, who will handle the trial of the case, stated that the Information charges the defendant, while employed in October 2003 as a distribution/window clerk at the Post Office in Watkins Glen, New York, with unlawfully disclosing confidential information coming to him in the course of his employment, namely, the existence of a mail cover, a confidential investigative technique for law enforcement controlled by the United States Postal Service, to the subject of the mail cover.

The Information was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the United States Postal Service Office of Inspector General, under the direction of Jeffrey Doetterl. The investigation was assisted by Patrick A. Rinow of the Office of Criminal Investigations for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.