



**United States Attorney's Office  
Western District of Pennsylvania**

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POSTAL EMPLOYEE SENTENCED TO PROBATION, FINED FOR EMBEZZLING CASH AND STAMPS

United States Attorney Mary Beth Buchanan announced today, April 10, 2008, that Wendy Watkins, a resident of Crabtree, Pennsylvania, has been sentenced in federal court in Pittsburgh to 2 years probation, a fine of \$1,700.00 and restitution in the amount of \$666.35 on her conviction of misappropriation of postal funds.

Senior United States District Judge Alan N. Bloch imposed the sentence on Watkins, age 33.

According to information presented to the court by Assistant United States Attorney Leo M. Dillon, Watkins, while employed in the Postmaster Relief position at the Crabtree, Pennsylvania Post Office, embezzled approximately \$707.95 in funds and stamp stock by taking money from her cash drawer and removing stamps, without paying for them, for her personal use.

In explaining the sentence, Judge Bloch stated that he imposed a fine because, if the only consequence for a theft is an order to repay the money, there is really no penalty for the crime.

Ms. Buchanan commended the United States Postal Service, Office of Inspector General for the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Watkins.

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