



Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Southern District of Texas

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FORMER RURAL CARRIER PLEADS GUILTY TO THEFT OF MAIL

(HOUSTON, Texas) – Former Rural Carrier Shandel Nicole Lott, 28, of Houston, Texas, has pleaded guilty to one count of mail theft, United States Attorney Don DeGabrielle announced today.

Lott began her employment with the United States Postal Service as a Rural Relief Carrier in June of 2005. Lott had been assigned to worked various routes at the East Houston Post Office on Mesa Road in Houston, Texas.

Lott's guilty plea follows her indictment Dec. 13, 2007, wherein she was charged with two counts of mail theft. The investigation was triggered by complaints of missing mail by customers residing on rural route 003 at the East Houston Post Office. Agents determined Lott was assigned to deliver rural route 003 at the time the customers' mail was supposed to be delivered. Additional complaints had also been received concerning other routes to which Lott had been assigned.

Lott is scheduled for sentencing April 23, 2008, before United States District Judge Nancy Atlas. If convicted, Lott faces a maximum penalty of up to five years imprisonment and/or a \$250,000 fine.

This investigation leading to Lott's indictment and arrest was conducted by special agents with U.S. Postal Service's Office of Inspector General. The case is being handled by Special Assistant United States Attorney Tammie Y. Moore.

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