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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WRIGHTSVILLE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO
MISAPPROPRIATION OF POSTAL FUNDS**

AUGUSTA, GA: Edmund A. Booth, Jr., United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that Grayson CARTER, age 55 of Wrightsville, Georgia, entered a guilty plea yesterday in U.S. District Court in Augusta before U.S. District Judge Dudley H. Bowen, Jr. Carter pled guilty to misappropriating \$112,000.00 in postal funds in his possession in violation of Title 18, Section 1711, while he was employed with the United States Postal Service in Kite, Georgia. Carter also pled guilty to illegally issuing a postal order valued at \$736.00 in violation of Title 18, Section 500.

Booth stated that the evidence at the guilty plea hearing established that between August 2005 and November 2006, at the post office in Johnson County, Carter created a scheme where he "kited" postal money orders and used the money for his personal use. While Carter attempted to return most of the funds before being discovered, he still owed the Postal Service approximately \$18,000.00 when the scheme was discovered.. Booth noted that the offenses for which Carter has been convicted carries a maximum statutory penalty of ten (10) years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000 and that upon completion of a pre-sentence investigation report that the court will schedule a sentencing hearing.

Booth praised the work of agents with the United States Postal Service's Office of Inspector General who investigated the case. The government is being represented by Assistant United States Attorneys Nancy Greenwood and Charlie Bourne.

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