

Colorado Postmaster Paid His Wife \$35,000 for Landscaping and Snow Removal Services She Never Performed

The United States Postal Service Office of Inspector General (OIG) received information that a Colorado Postmaster was performing landscaping work at the post office while on duty, even though a company was being paid to perform the work. Our investigation determined that the Postmaster improperly steered landscaping and snow removal contracts to his wife's company, which had contracts only with the Postmaster's post office. Special agents found that the Postmaster's wife used her maiden name to conceal her marital relationship and that the Postmaster assisted her in preparing the bids. The wife acknowledged she was paid for doing nothing more than submitting monthly invoices. The Postmaster and his wife were arrested on state criminal charges. In September 2007, they both pled guilty to one felony count of theft and one misdemeanor count of failure to disclose conflict of interest. The Postmaster retired under investigation.