



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

Donald J. DeGabrielle, Jr. • United States Attorney

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ANGELA DODGE

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

(713) 567-9388

CITY LETTER CARRIER ARRESTED FOR THEFT OF MAIL

(HOUSTON, Texas) – Adrian Patton, 45, of Missouri City, has been indicted for delaying the U.S. Mail, United States Attorney Don DeGabrielle announced today. Patton voluntarily surrendered himself this morning to agents of the United States Postal Service - Office of Inspector General (USPS-OIG) and has been ordered released on a \$20,000 personal recognizance bond. Patton appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge Frances H. Stacy this afternoon, where he pleaded not guilty.

On Aug. 21, 2008, a federal grand jury returned a two-count indictment charging Patton with two counts of mail delay resulting from mail recovered during an unrelated off-duty traffic accident involving Patton. The Sugarland Police Department, investigating the traffic accident, discovered several tubs of deliverable U.S. Mail in Patton's vehicle.

Patton began his employment with the USPS as a carrier on July 28, 1990. If convicted, Patton faces a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment and/or a \$250,000 fine on each count of the indictment.

USPS-OIG investigated. Special Assistant United States Attorney Tammie Y. Moore is prosecuting the case.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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