



Department of Justice

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ANGELA DODGE
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FORMER RURAL CARRIER ASSOCIATE IMPRISONED FOR STEALING IDENTITIES FROM THE MAIL

(HOUSTON) - Former rural carrier associate LaNardsha Rose has been sentenced to prison for aggravated identity theft, acting United States Attorney Tim Johnson announced today.

U.S. District Court Judge Gray Miller sentenced Rose to two years imprisonment, the mandatory statutory maximum sentence today. Indicted in April 2008, Rose pleaded guilty on Dec. 8, 2008, admitting she stole mail from three customers residing along an assigned delivery route. Rose stole mail containing several boxes of personal checks addressed to two different postal customers and a MasterCard credit card destined for a third postal customer. The effected customers resided on Route 116 and Route 69 delivered out of the Copperfield Carrier Annex on Highway 6 North in Houston.

Special Agents of the U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General (USPS-OIG) initiated an investigation upon receiving customer complaints. As a rural carrier associate Rose was not assigned to one permanent route; however, USPS-OIG agents determined Rose had been assigned to the effected routes when the reported mail losses had occurred. In addition, Rose was captured and identified from video surveillance attempting to pass one of the customer's stolen checks made payable to "LaNardsha Rose." In addition, at least two other checks made payable to "LaNardsha Rose" cleared the second victim's account. Rose's cell phone number was also captured in connection with an inquiry seeking information about the stolen Mastercard account. Rose was later identified making several purchases using the card. She was also captured on video surveillance using the card and signing the legitimate customer's name in connection with one of the purchases

"Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the United States and is a serious federal offense," said Max Eamiguel, Executive Special Agent-in-Charge, Office of Inspector General, USPS, Southwest Field Office. "The American public trusts the Postal Service to deliver its mail intact. When a postal employee betrays that trust and steals mail, then uses stolen financial information to wreak havoc in the lives of our citizens, Special Agents of the Postal Service's Office of Inspector General investigate. Fortunately, these incidents are not common, and the overwhelming majority of the

700,000 postal employees are honest and hard working. With the prosecutive support of the United States Attorney's Office, we will aggressively pursue any employee committing a postal crime."

Rose began her employment with the United States Postal Service as a rural carrier associate in December 2006. Her employment has since been terminated.

Rose will be allowed to self-surrender to the Bureau of Prisons in two weeks. In addition to the mandatory prison term, Judge Miller also imposed a one-year-term of supervised release to begin following her release from prison and further ordered she pay restitution to the victims in the amount of \$1304.04.

The investigation leading to Rose's indictment and arrest was conducted by Special Agents with USPS-OIG. The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorney Tammie Y. Moore.

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