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**TWO U.S. POSTAL EMPLOYEES AND ACCOMPLICE  
CHARGED IN FEDERAL INDICTMENT**

United States Attorney Richard B. Roper announced that a federal indictment was unsealed on Friday that charges two U.S. Postal employees, Elmer Ray Williams, age 35, and Lynetta Barnes, age 30, and an accomplice, Shenika Barnes, age 41, with Conspiracy to Commit Fraud and Related Activity in Connection with Access Device. If convicted, each defendant faces a maximum statutory sentence of 5 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and restitution.

Elmer Ray Williams and Lynetta Barnes are Postal Carriers employed at the Lakeland Hills Postal Station in Dallas.

Special Agents of the U.S. Postal Service, Office of Inspector General, and Dallas Police Officers arrested the defendants on August 25, 2005 in Dallas, Texas. The defendants, all Dallas residents, made their initial appearance on Friday, August 26, 2005, before a Magistrate Judge in Dallas and were released on personal recognizance bond. They are scheduled to be arraigned on Thursday, September 1, 2005, before the Honorable Ed Kinkeade, United States District Judge.

According to the indictment, Williams, Lynetta Barnes and Shenika Barnes conspired with each other, with the intent to defraud, to use a credit card to obtain goods and services. The investigation involved the embezzlement and theft of Postal Service funds through the use of Voyager gasoline credit cards. Elmer Ray Williams, Lynetta Marie Barnes, and Shenika Barnes possessed a Voyager credit card number and obtained personal identification numbers (PIN) of other non-involved Postal employees to make illegal purchases of gasoline for third parties. The defendants purchased gasoline with

the Voyager card and then accepted cash from accomplices for approximately half of the charges made to the card.

An indictment is an accusation by a grand jury and a defendant is entitled to the presumption of innocence unless proven guilty.

United States Attorney Roper praised the efforts of the U.S. Postal Service/Office of the Inspector General. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Aaron Wiley.