



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maryland*

*Rod J. Rosenstein
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer*

*36 S. Charles Street
Fourth Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2692*

*410-209-4800
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462
410-209-4885
FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

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**CONTACT AUSA VICKIE E. LEDUC or
MARCIA MURPHY at (410) 209-4885**

**FORMER POSTAL EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO STEALING STAMPS WORTH
OVER \$682,000**

Baltimore, Maryland - Former postal employee Marvin Lamont Foster, age 55, of Rosedale, Maryland, pleaded guilty today to conspiracy to steal from the United States Postal Service (USPS), announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

“Anyone who buys stamps at a discount should be on notice of the risk that they are purchasing stolen property,” said U.S. Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein.

According to his plea agreement, Foster was a window clerk at the Elkrigde USPS office, having been employed there since 1998. First class postage stamps are provided by USPS to local post offices packaged in “bricks” which consist of 2,000 stamps valued at \$840 per brick and “coils” which consist of 100 stamps valued at \$42. From June 2008 through March 2009, Foster stole “bricks” and “coils” of stamps from the post office, which he provided to a co-conspirator and others to sell. Since January 2007, the Elkrigde USPS office has sustained a loss of \$682,809.11 as a result of the postage stamp theft scheme.

Foster faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison. U.S. District Judge Catherine C. Blake has scheduled sentencing for November 13, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the U.S. Postal Service - Office of Inspector General and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for their investigative work. Mr. Rosenstein commended Assistant United States Attorneys Sandra Wilkinson and Rachel M. Yasser, who are prosecuting the case.