



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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Postal Employee Indicted For Theft of Mail, Other Offenses **- Accused of Stealing Mail That Included Donations For Charities -**

WASHINGTON - Lisa M. Hunter, 40, a mail processor for the United States Postal Service, was indicted today on federal charges stemming from the theft of more than 900 pieces of mail from a Washington, D.C. postal facility, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Hunter, of Hyattsville, Maryland, was indicted by a grand jury in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia on one count of theft of mail by a government employee and two counts of first-degree theft. She was arrested earlier this month. She faces up to five years in prison if convicted of theft of mail by a government employee.

According to the government's evidence, on June 2, 2011, at approximately 10:40 a.m., Hunter was observed by a U.S. Postal Service police officer pushing a mail cart through a turnstile at the employee exit of the Brentwood facility, 900 Brentwood Road NE. When questioned, she claimed that she had been authorized by a supervisor to remove the mail from the facility. The supervisor identified by Hunter advised the investigative team that he did not currently supervise her and that he did not authorize her to remove mail from the facility.

The mail was addressed to two charities and contained more than \$9,000 worth of donations in the form of checks and U.S. currency. The charities included World Villages for Children and Help Hospitalized Veterans. World Villages for Children provides food, care and education for needy children throughout the world. Help Hospitalized Veterans distributes therapeutic arts and crafts to patients receiving care at Department of Veterans Affairs centers and encourages volunteers and pen-pal relationships with hospitalized veterans.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of criminal law and is not evidence of guilt. Every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

The case is being investigated by the U.S. Postal Service's Office of the Inspector General and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Seth Waxman, of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.

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