

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	*	CRIMINAL NO. 10-163
v.	*	SECTION: "J"
CHRISTOPHER BOURGEOIS	*	VIOLATION: 18 U.S.C. §1709
	* * *	

FACTUAL BASIS

Should this matter have gone to trial, the Government would have proved beyond a reasonable doubt, through the introduction of competent testimony and admissible tangible exhibits including the testimony of special agents of the Office of Inspector General of the United States Postal Service, and others, the following facts to support the allegations charged by the United States Attorney in the indictment now pending against the defendant.

On March 23, 2010, Special Agent Chris Nugent with the Office of Inspector General for the United States Postal Service received a call from Postal Inspector Nate Lewis concerning sixty-two pieces of riffled mail that he discovered in the New Orleans plant on March 22, 2010. Based on his initial investigation, Inspector Lewis determined that postal employee, Chris Bourgeois ("**Bourgeois**"), had riffled through the above mentioned pieces of mail. On March 24, 2010, SA

Nugent prepared six first-class test letters addressed to fictional individuals, which were stuffed with cash and gift cards from Wal Mart, Starbucks, and Borders. On March 26, 2010, SA Nugent placed the test letters in the collection slots for mail inside the Marrero Post Office, where **Bourgeois** worked. SA Nugent then entered the Criminal Investigation Office to observe the collection mail area.

Shortly thereafter, **Bourgeois** arrived at the Marrero Post Office to begin work. An hour later, **Bourgeois** was observed placing his hands in the carts that contained the aforesaid test letters. Moments later, SA Nugent noticed cash in **Bourgeois'** left hand as it emerged from the cart. **Bourgeois** then placed the cash into his left front pocket and walked away from the mail area. SA Nugent then left the Criminal Investigation Office and approached **Bourgeois** to confront him about the theft. After confronting him, SA Nugent escorted **Bourgeois** to the Criminal Investigation Office to interview him about the riffling letters.

After he was advised of his Miranda Rights, **Bourgeois** admitted that he took money out of three or four of the test letters. When asked how long he had been riffling mail, **Bourgeois** admitted that he had been doing it for about two weeks. SA Nugent then questioned **Bourgeois** about the fifty-three pieces of mail that had been riffling on Tuesday (March 23) and nine pieces that had been riffling on Wednesday (March 24). **Bourgeois** estimated that he riffling between twenty to twenty-five letters. He also stated that he had a five dollar bill in his wallet that he taken out of a piece of the mail the day before on March 23. **Bourgeois** then reviewed the riffling letters from the 23rd and 24th.

He then stated that he recognized the letters, and dated and initialed a copy of each. He also initialed and dated copies of the four test letters he riffled that day. Finally, he gave the agents the five dollar bill that he had taken from a letter, and signed a written statement confessing to the crime.

READ AND APPROVED:

ROMA KENT
Counsel for Christopher Bourgeois ____/____/____

SPIRO G. LATSIS
Assistant U.S. Attorney ____/____/____

CHRISTOPHER BOURGEOIS
Defendant ____/____/____