

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Criminal No. 07-
v. : 18 U.S.C. §§ 641 & 2
PHILLIP L. HALL :

INFORMATION

The defendant having waived in open court prosecution by indictment, the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey charges:

Defendant

1. Defendant PHILLIP L. HALL was employed in various Post Offices in Northern New Jersey as a Postmaster with the United States Postal Service ("Postal Service") from 1997 to 2006.

A. In or about May 1997, defendant HALL was the Postmaster of the Hopatcong, New Jersey Post Office until he became the Postmaster of the Flemington, New Jersey Post Office in or about September 1998 - a position that he held until in or about October 1999. As a Postmaster, defendant HALL was responsible for overseeing budget operations, the planning and scheduling of work, the safety and health of employees, and customer and community relations.

B. From in or about October 1999 to in or about October 2006, defendant HALL was the Postmaster of the Dover, New Jersey Post Office.

Defendant Misuses Postal Service Employee's Time and Services

2. In or about 2002, defendant PHILLIP L. HALL caused and permitted a Postal Service employee to perform extensive carpentry work at the residence of his ex-wife while the Postal Service employee was on duty and while being paid by the Postal Service.

3. The carpentry work included renovations of a bathroom and the basement of the residence, and took a total of approximately five weeks to complete.

Defendant Rewards Employees for Donating Leave

4. As part of the Postal Services' benefits for employees, employees received credit in increments of hours for vacation days, known as "annual leave." The Postal Service Annual Leave Sharing Program allowed Postal Service employees to share their annual leave by donating or receiving earned unused annual leave. In order for an employee to be eligible to receive donated leave, the employee must have: been incapacitated for available Postal Service duties due to a serious personal health condition, including an incapacitating pregnancy; been known or expected to be absent from work 40 hours more than the employee's own earned sick leave and/or annual leave balances would cover; and requested leave recipient eligibility by submitting a specific form for approval and processing by the employee's immediate supervisor. An employee could donate up to a total of one-half

of the hours of annual leave that the donor would earn during the leave year. Under the policy governing the annual leave sharing program, no employee could directly or indirectly intimidate, threaten, or coerce, or attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, any other employee for the purpose of interfering with any right that the other employee could have with respect to donating, receiving, or using leave under the leave sharing program. For purposes of the policy, the terms, "intimidate, threaten, or coerce" included conferring or promising to confer any benefit, or effecting or threatening to effect any reprisal.

5. Between in or about June 2002 and in or about March 2005, several Postal Service employees donated leave through the Annual Leave Sharing Program for the benefit of defendant PHILLIP L. HALL's ex-wife, who was also a Postal Service employee.

6. During that time, to reward these employees for donating leave to his ex-wife, defendant PHILLIP L. HALL caused and permitted time and attendance records of approximately five of these Postal Service employees who had donated annual leave to benefit defendant HALL's ex-wife to be falsified to indicate that these employees were working, when, in fact, they were not. The total hours of improperly claimed work amounted to approximately two months of time for all five employees.

The Charge

7. From in or about 2002 to or about March 2005, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, defendant

PHILLIP L. HALL

knowingly and willfully did embezzle, steal, purloin, and convert to his use and the use of another, and, without authority did convey and dispose of, money and things of value totaling approximately \$16,509.97, of the United States Postal Service, an agency of the United States.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 641 and 2.

CHRISTOPHER J. CHRISTIE
United States Attorney