



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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District of Utah**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**NEWS RELEASE**  
***FEDERAL EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY  
TO THEFT AND EMBEZZLEMENT  
OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY***

SALT LAKE CITY – Justin Johnson, age 36, of Holden, Utah, an employee of the Bureau of Land Management in Utah, pleaded guilty in federal court Wednesday afternoon to one count of theft and embezzlement of government property in connection with misuse of his government-issued credit card.

Johnson admitted that between September 2006 and May 2010, he knowingly embezzled and converted to his own use funds and merchandise that were acquired with his government-issued credit card, which is property of the United States. The purchases exceeded \$1,000.

U.S. District Judge Clark Waddoups set sentencing in the case for March 29, 2011, at 3:30 p.m. Johnson faces up to 10 years in prison for the conviction.

Johnson was charged in an indictment returned in June 2010 with theft and embezzlement of government property and two counts of money laundering. The money laundering counts will be dismissed at sentencing as

a part of a plea agreement reached in the case. Johnson agreed to pay full restitution in the case. The amount of restitution will be ordered as a part of the sentence imposed in the case.

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