

# Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.  
Western District of New York

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## **WEBSTER MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO EMBEZZLING POSTAL SERVICE FUNDS**

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Joseph A. Piehler, 57, of Webster, New York, pleaded guilty to theft of government property. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney John J. Field, who is handling the case, stated that Piehler operated a contract Postal Service unit located in a convenience store he owned in Webster. In 2010, while operating the unit, Piehler embezzled approximately \$16,000 worth of cash, money orders and stamps that belonged to the Postal Service.

The plea is the culmination of an investigation by the United States Postal Inspection Service, under the direction of Inspector-in-Charge Robert Bethel.

Defendant is scheduled to be sentenced on February 7, 2012, at 3:15, by District Judge Charles Siragusa.

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