

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA * CRIMINAL NO. 19-196

v. * SECTION: "S"

CHASITY DOTEY *

*

* * *

FACTUAL BASIS

The defendant, CHASITY DOTEY a/k/a "Chastity Pines" (hereinafter, the "defendant" or "DOTEY"), has agreed to plead guilty as charged to Count One, that is, conspiracy to alter postal money orders, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 371 and 500. This Factual Basis does not attempt to set forth all of the facts known to the United States at this time. The limited purpose of this Factual Basis is to demonstrate that there exists a sufficient legal basis for DOTEY's guilty plea. The United States and DOTEY do hereby stipulate and agree that the allegations in the Indictment and the following facts are true and correct and that, should this matter have proceeded to trial, the government would have proven them beyond a reasonable doubt, through the introduction of competent testimony and admissible tangible and documentary exhibits.

The Office of Inspector General for the United States Postal Service (USPS-OIG) received information in 2019 that there was a report of United States Postal money orders issued by the United States Post Office ("Postal money orders") being cashed in the Eastern District of Louisiana for amounts larger than the original purchase price.

The investigation revealed that Postal money orders were being bought in California for small amounts (\$4.00 and \$5.00) and then being altered to reflect amounts of approximately \$500.00 to \$600.00. Some of the Postal money orders being cashed used a fake Texas driver's license in the name of [REDACTED]

Documents, surveillance video and witness testimony would show that on or about February 7, 2019, a Postal money order ending in number [REDACTED] was purchased in Canogao Park, California, for the face amount of \$4.00. Thereafter, on or about March 6, 2019, **DOTY** cashed the Postal money order ending in number [REDACTED] with an altered face amount of \$530.00 at a United States Post Office located in Slidell, Louisiana. **DOTY** used the alias [REDACTED] in cashing the Postal money order.

On or about February 15, 2019, a Postal money order ending in number [REDACTED] was purchased in Little Rock, California, for the face amount of \$5.00. Thereafter, on or about March 6, 2019, **DOTY** cashed the Postal money order ending in number [REDACTED] with an altered face amount of \$530.00 at a United States Post Office located in Slidell, Louisiana. **DOTY** used the alias [REDACTED] in cashing the Postal money order.

In addition, **DOTY** cashed eleven (11) other altered Postal money orders at United States Post Offices in Louisiana and Mississippi between February 28, 2019 through March 28, 2019. These eleven (11) altered Postal money orders were all purchased in California for nominal amounts and later altered to reflect values from \$530.00 to \$660.00. All eleven (11) altered Postal money orders were cashed by **DOTY** while pretending to be [REDACTED]

On August 29, 2019, USPS-OIG Inspectors interviewed **DOTY** after she was *Mirandized* and voluntarily consented to the interview. **DOTY** admitted that she was [REDACTED] and that she had obtained the altered checks from a man known only to her as "Chris." After meeting Chris

socially, Chris told **DOTY** that he needed money to get home and asked her to cash some Postal money orders. Chris gave **DOTY** a driver's license with another person's photo on it and drove her (along with a male companion) to several different Post Offices for her to cash the money orders. **DOTY** knew that "something was wrong" and admitted that she helped Chris because he paid her with drugs.


The total amount of loss to the United States Postal Service for the thirteen (13) altered Postal money orders was \$7,540.00.

Additional evidence, including surveillance footage and records from the United States Post Office would be introduced at trial to prove the facts as set forth above. In addition, the testimony of employees and agents of the USPS-OIG and United States Post Office employees, and other competent witnesses would be introduced at trial to prove the facts set forth above.

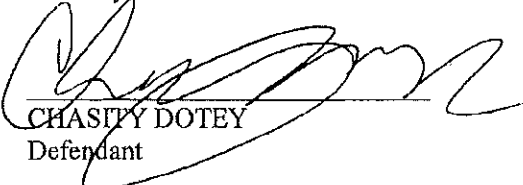
APPROVED AND AGREED TO:


 EDWARD J. RIVERA
 Assistant United States Attorney

6/15/2021
 Date


 CHARLES D. MARSHALL III
 Attorney for Defendant

6/14/21
 Date


 CHASTITY DOTY
 Defendant

6-4-2021
 Date