

Witness Statement

(CJ Act 1967, s9; MC Act 1980, ss 5A(3)(a)
and 5B, MC Rules 1981, r 70)



Statement of Keith Noverre
Age if under 18 Over 18 (If over 18 insert 'over 18')

This statement (consisting of three (3) pages each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe true.

Dated the 8th day of January 2009

Signature **GRO**

I am employed by Post Office Ltd as an Auditor and have held this position since September 2003. My duties involved the verification of stock, cash and vouchers by performance of audit at all Post Office Outlets.

On Monday 14th January 2008, I attended West Byfleet Post Office, 14 Station Approach, West Byfleet, KT14 6NG, Branch Code (126023) to carry out an audit together with my two colleagues, Sue Le May and Chris Stevens. I arrived at the Post Office at about 08.30 hours and I introduced myself and my colleagues to a member of staff namely, Mr Ali Raza when he arrived at the Post Office at 08.40 hours. Mr Raza allowed my colleagues and me into the Post Office secure area and an audit of the Post Office commenced. Soon afterwards Mr Davinder Misra, husband of the subpostmistress, Mrs Seema Misra arrived and said that his wife was visiting relatives and would come to the Post Office a little while later.

At 10.45 hours on the 14th January 2008, Mrs Seema Misra arrived at the Post Office and immediately informed me that the Post Office accounts would be short for an amount of £50,000 to £60,000. Mrs Misra explained to me that about a year ago,

Signature **GRO**
CS011 (Side A)

Signature witnessed by

Version 3.0 11/02

Witness Statement

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Continuation of statement of **Keith Noverre**

GRO

around £89,000 from the Post Office. Mrs Misra said that she was scared about losing the Post Office so did not tell anybody in Post Office Ltd about this and had been falsely adjusting her balances to show a clear trading position at the end of each period.

I then telephoned Paul Dawkins of the Post Office Investigation Team and Tony Hills, Network Compliance Audit Manager to inform them of what Mrs Misra had told me.

West Byfleet Post Office uses six stock units and three of them were still in the previous balance period. I asked Seema to balance the three stocks so that they could be put into the current trading period which was 10 and to then complete a final balance. Seema signed the Final Branch Trading Account for the period 12th December 2007 to the 14th January 2008 and I now exhibit it as **KN/01**.

I discovered that in the suspense account of exhibit **KN/01** there was an amount of £30,930.07 being held under the heading "All Currencies Awaiting Collection C Fwd". There was an amount of £27,000 held in cash pouches and an amount of £3,930.07 held in currency in pouches. Seema showed me the two grey pouches with rem slips dated the 9th January 2008 enclosed. Both pouches had been remmed out using Seema's log on code of SMI001 but there was no cash. The currency pouch was not to hand and Seema could not offer an explanation regarding this. I exhibit as **KN/02** the remittance pouch and slips for £13,000 and **KN/03** the remittance pouch and slips for £14,000.

The final audit report revealed the following discrepancies;

Stock AA	-£37,395.47
Stock BB	-£209.68
Stock CC	-£2,444.60

Signature
CS011A

GRO

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Continuation of statement of **Keith Noverre**

Stock DD	-£738.77
OOH	Clear
SMI	-£2,891.25
Rem Pouches	-£27,000.00
Currency Pouch	<u>-£3,930.07</u>
Audit Result	-£74,609.84 (excluding £3,034.03 – existing debt)

I have written an audit report of what occurred on this day and I produce this as exhibit

KN/04

GRO

Signature

CS011A

GRO

Signature witnessed by

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