

Witness Statement

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



Statement of Paul FIELD

Age if under 18 Over 18 (If over 18 insert 'over 18')

This statement (consisting of two 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 09 day of November 2006

Signature

I have been employed by Post Office Ltd for 25 years. For the last 10 years, I have undertaken the role of Branch Auditor. The purpose of this role is to verify the assets held at Post Office Branches are correct and that the transactions are performed to the required specification to ensure the security of the Post Office assets, it's customers and it's clients.

On Wednesday 31st May 2006, I arrived at North Bransholme Post Office, accompanied by my colleague Lyn Eastwood to undertake an audit at the branch. Diane Hoyles, Area Intervention Manager and Janet Skinner, Subpostmistress were present.

The cash was checked and was found to be short by £58,942.41. There was also a shortage in the stock element of £274.02. This made the total loss at the branch £59,216.43.

I informed Diane Hoyles of the total loss and also telephoned Diane Matthews, Investigations Manager to inform of my findings.

I was informed by Diane Hoyles that the branch would not be reopening and that all the cash and stock would have to be despatched from the branch. I removed the items off the Horizon system and placed them in pouches for onward despatch.

I obtained a one shot password, which allows me to place the shortage into the Subpostmistress's late account. The amount of £59,216.43 was posted at this time.

Signature

Signature witnessed by

CS011 (Side A)

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Continuation of statement of Paul FIELD

I compiled a report detailing the findings of the audit at North Bransholme Post Office, which I now produce as item PF1.

Signature

CS011A

Signature witnessed by

