

Staff in Confidence

Internal memo



To: Post Office Security

CC **Dave Pardoe**
Senior Security Manager

Jacqui Whitham
Former Agents Debt Recovery Team

From: **Paul Southin**
Financial Investigator
Security Operations Team

Date: 12th July 2011

SUBJECT: - Investigation Ref: - POLTD/0708/0249- WEST BYFLEET/SEEMA MISRA

Following the financial investigation into this case, the matter proceeded to a full confiscation hearing, which was subsequently heard at Guildford Crown Court on Friday 8th July 2011.

It was apparent from documents supplied by the defence Barrister on the day of the hearing that the defendant had numerous debts and was being pursued by a number of debt recovery agencies. We were also informed that the property owned by the defendant was in the process of being re-possessed. However, no documents were produced to support this claim. It was also claimed that the value of the property was as low as £170,000 and that the other debts would account for any available equity. The defence offered a nominal order of £1.00 due to having no available assets.

Having examined the documents provided by the defence, I concluded that they did not take precedence over our claim and that some of the claims would need clarification if they were to be accepted by us. Given this position, it was put to the defence that we would be seeking an order for £40,000.00 to which the defence agreed.

As a result, a confiscation order was made by the court for £40,000.00 with the whole amount to be paid as compensation to Post Office Ltd. The defendant was given 6 months to pay with a default sentence of 15 months imprisonment.

Further enquiries suggest that there is a considerable higher value on the property of in excess of £200,000.00. Should this prove to be the case, then we will be at liberty to revisit the matter at court and ask for a higher amount of confiscation. I will continue to monitor the situation in the meantime.

CWM FI

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The case file is now forwarded for formal closure as a confiscation order has been issued by the crown court, although as mentioned, I will continue to monitor the situation in relation to the sale of the property and the price achieved..

Regards,

Paul Southin
Financial Investigator