

Witness Statement

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



Statement of Theresa Joan HOLMES

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 17 day of July 2006

Signature

I have been employed as a counter clerk at the Post Office for 4 years. I started at Grandale Post Office where I was trained by Janet Skinner. I moved to Hessel Road and for the last two and a half years I have worked at North Bransholme Post Office.

My duties were alternate Monday afternoons or Tuesday mornings, Thursday afternoons and Friday all day, every other Saturday morning. On a Monday I worked with Wendy, Tuesday with Janet and Kath, Thursday with Janet, Friday with Colleen, latterly with Wendy and Saturday with Kath. I used to take the door and safe keys on a Thursday night for opening on a Friday and also Friday night if it was my Saturday in work.

I used to have an individual stock unit, known as BB. We changed to a shared stock unit AA about July 2005. I had my own user name THO001 and a password. My password was known to Janet and Colleen and I knew Janet's password to allow me to do the daily summaries when Janet wasn't working.

When we were on a shared stock unit, all the losses would be made good between us all. Janet would sometimes get a bit annoyed when the balance was short and make comments like be a bit more careful. The largest loss I was told about was over £100 but we didn't put any money in to make it good the loss and Janet never asked for it. This was sometime last year.

Signature

Signature witnessed by

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

Continuation of statement of Theresa Joan HOLMES

As I worked with Janet on a Thursday afternoon, I would ask how the balancing had been. Janet used to tell me a figure but in the last few months she just used to say the balancing had been rubbish but did not say an amount. Sometime last year, just before we went onto branch trading, Janet went to a seminar. When she returned she told me that you don't really have to bother counting and declaring the cash anymore as it will not give you a true figure till the end of the month. Janet told me to print a balance snapshot and have a look at the cash figure. Declare that amount daily taking off about £13,000, which is stock. On occasions I did count the cash on hand and declared that amount. I don't remember the system showing a discrepancy.

Around the beginning of May, on a Monday, the office was closed due to a flood. I was in work in the afternoon and received a call from the cash depot. They asked why the cash order had been increased that morning as the office has £72,000. I was asked to count the cash on hand and said there was approx £3,000 on hand. I said I would call the Subpostmistress and asked that he call back in 10 minutes. I called Janet who said she had been asked to return cash which she had done. The man from the cash depot never called back.

Around a week before the office was closed as the landlord had put a lock on the secure area not allowing access. I have been told this was due to non payment of rent.

I have been shown a schedule with transactions on CC stock which I was told was known as DM7 which shows cash declarations made on CC stock unit under my user code, again on May 25th. I have not attached myself to CC stock unit. I did not know the office had a CC stock unit since we changed to shared balancing last year. I have not undertaken these transactions.

I have not stolen any money from North Bransholme Post Office and I have no knowledge of how any losses have occurred.

Signature

Signature witnessed by

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