

Financial Investigation Events Log

Case Number: 0809/0126

Gary Thomas - Astwood Bank / Julian Wilson

Date	Events	Initials
22/09/08	<p>1. Suspects name: Julian Wilson 2. Suspects Position held: Subpostmaster 3. Enquiry type: Audit shortage 4. Loss: £27,811.28 5. Office: Astwood Bank 6. Branch Code: 346246 7. Address of Office: 1248 Evesham Road, Redditch, B96 6AD 8. Suspects Home address: GRO 9. Other details:</p> <p>Brief summary Audit conducted at branch on 11th September 2008 and Postmaster admitted to auditors they would find a shortage of around £27,000, which was an accumulation of losses over the past 5 years or so. The Postmaster Mr Wilson confirmed he had been inflating his cash figures and false accounting at the end of each period to cover up the shortfalls.</p> <p>Mr Wilson confirmed the brief summary of facts above to be correct and that he had been false accounting for the last 5 years a selection of Branch Trading Statements were shown to Mr Wilson between April 2007 and August 2008 that he admitted to be false accounts with inflated cash figures shown. Mr Wilson stated he was not in a position to repay any monies at this time but has since informed me of his intention to sell the Post Office to finance this money outstanding.</p> <p>Case Raise & Offender reporting at Ref 1</p>	GW
02/10/08	<p>FES received (Ref 2)</p> <p>> NS&I, Easy Access savings account Mrs K L Wilson NS&I 11 GRO GRO Mr J Wilson NS&I 11 GRO, account number GRO current balance £429.67cr (15/08/08) - as of 13/11/08 £129 >Lloyds, sort code GRO, account number GRO, current balance 04/08/08 - £1,498.19cr Mr J & Mrs K. L. Wilson (Platinum A/C) as of 15/12/08 £1,000.00. >Lloyds, sort code GRO, account number GRO current balance 29/08/08 - £3482.33cr Mr & Mrs Wilson. (Astwood Bank PO Current A/C) as of 15/12/08 £3,700.00. >Lloyds Loan Agreement - Astwood Bank Post Office - £60,000 dr - GRO GRO. >Lloyds, sort code GRO, account number GRO, Mr & Mrs Wilson (astwood Bank PO Bus Loan) - Believed Closed november 2006!! >RBS, SORT CODE GRO, account number GRO, Astwood Bank Post Office, current balance 01/09/08 - £1549.13cr. - as of 20/11/08 closed GS207 received for home address 62 Lineholt Close - confirms property is owned jointly by Julian & Karen WILSON, charges with RBS (Nov 2002) and GE Money Home Lending (March 2006) - £109K outstanding according to GS204 - Title at (Ref 3)</p>	GW Copies of statements


03/10/08	GS204 & 205 sent to Intel Txn on behalf of Gary GS207 for Evesham Rd confirms A Goldrick as owner. (Ref 3)	GW
15/10/08	GS204 & 205 results received (Ref 4) Owns a V70 Volvo Estate Silver car 2435cc - W251 JDA (Car buyer estimate value iro £2.5K)	GW
13/11/08	Pre-production order enquiries with Lloyds identify £3.5K in one account; the other account balance is negligible. Also confirm Loan with Lloyds TSB £14.7K & £60K.	
13/11/08	NS&I confirm £120 balance	
20/11/08	RBS confirm account has been closed in the last few weeks.	
02/12/08	Offender report and taped summary of interview received from GT (Ref 5 & 6)	
15/12/08	Discussed the issue of restraint with SAO and Jarnail Singh (CLT) and both are in agreement that it is PLAN to restrain the identified assets, namely Home address, lease, 2 x accounts and car. Restraint prepared.	GW
17/12/08	Restraint obtained Judge Stow Court 6 Croydon CC (Ref 7) Copy of order posted to Mr & Mrs Wilson RX1 to Coventry LR Fax & letter to Lloyds TSB, RE: 2 x accounts (Ref 8)	GW
24/12/08	Completion of registration received from Coventry LR (Ref 9) (SAO authority also associated)	GW
05/01/09	Following contact from Wilson's solicitors, Ged agrees to vary restraint.	GW
07/01/09	Charges advised by CLT 1 "FOR THAT YOU Julian Wilson between the 1 st day of September 2003 and the 11 th day of September 2008 at Astwood Bank Post Office stole £27,811.98 belonging to Post Office Limited". (Contrary to Section 1(1) of the Theft Act 1968) 2 "FOR THAT YOU Julian Wilson on or about the 16 th day of May 2007 at Astwood Bank Post Office dishonestly and with a view to gain for yourself falsified an account required for an accounting purpose namely the Final Branch Trading Account for Astwood Bank Post Office for the period ending 16 th May 2007 by making an entry therein purporting to show that the amount of cash in hand was greater than the true figure". (Contrary to Section 17(1) of the Theft Act 1968) 3 "FOR THAT YOU Julian Wilson on or about the 10 th day of October 2007 at Astwood Bank Post Office dishonestly and with a view to gain for yourself falsified an account required for an accounting purpose namely the Final Branch Trading Account for Astwood Bank Post Office for the period ending 10 th October 2007 by making an entry therein purporting to show that the amount of cash in hand was greater than the true figure".	GW

07/01/09	(Contrary to Section 17(1) of the Theft Act 1968)	
	4	"FOR THAT YOU Julian Wilson on or about the 12 th day of December 2007 at Astwood Bank Post Office dishonestly and with a view to gain for yourself falsified an account required for an accounting purpose namely the Final Branch Trading Account for Astwood Bank Post Office for the period ending 12 th December 2007 by making an entry therein purporting to show that the amount of cash in hand was greater than the true figure". (Contrary to Section 17(1) of the Theft Act 1968)
	5	"FOR THAT YOU Julian Wilson on or about the 9 th day of January 2008 at Astwood Bank Post Office dishonestly and with a view to gain for yourself falsified an account required for an accounting purpose namely the Final Branch Trading Account for Astwood Bank Post Office for the period ending 9 th January 2008 by making an entry therein purporting to show that the amount of cash in hand was greater than the true figure". (Contrary to Section 17(1) of the Theft Act 1968)
	6	"FOR THAT YOU Julian Wilson on or about the 21 st day of May 2008 at Astwood Bank Post Office dishonestly and with a view to gain for yourself falsified an account required for an accounting purpose namely the Final Branch Trading Account for Astwood Bank Post Office for the period ending 21 st May 2008 by making an entry therein purporting to show that the amount of cash in hand was greater than the true figure". (Contrary to Section 17(1) of the Theft Act 1968)
07/01/09	7	"FOR THAT YOU Julian Wilson on or about the 20 th day of August 2008 at Astwood Bank Post Office dishonestly and with a view to gain for yourself falsified an account required for an accounting purpose namely the Final Branch Trading Account for Astwood Bank Post Office for the period ending 20 th August 2008 by making an entry therein purporting to show that the amount of cash in hand was greater than the true figure". (Contrary to Section 17(1) of the Theft Act 1968)
	8	"FOR THAT YOU Julian Wilson on or about the 11 th day of September 2008 at Astwood Bank Post Office dishonestly and with a view to gain for yourself falsified an account required for an accounting purpose namely the Final Branch Trading Account for Astwood Bank Post Office for the period ending 11 th September 2008 by making an entry therein purporting to show that the amount of cash in hand was greater than the true figure". (Contrary to Section 17(1) of the Theft Act 1968)
	Summons to be arranged and served	
16/01/09	Letter from Richard nelson solicitors requesting variation to restraint in respect of Lloyds TSB accounts.	
16/01/09	1 st Court Appearance 4 th March 2009 - Redditch Magistrates	
16/02/09	Variation of order obtained at Croydon CC, fax copies to Lloyds and Defence sols (Ref 10)	
11/03/09	POST OFFICE LIMITED v JULIAN WILSON REDDITCH MAGISTRATES COURT COMMITTAL - 29TH APRIL 2009 AT 2PM CASE NO: POLTD/0809/0126	

	<p>The above named Defendant attended Redditch Magistrates Court on the 4th March 2009. The prosecution was conducted by Counsel, the Defendant was also represented.</p> <p>The Defendant gave no indication of plea. The Magistrates declined jurisdiction and the case was set down for committal on the 29th April 2009 at 2pm. The Defendant was granted unconditional bail.</p>	
30/04/09	Restraint charge arranged for Lloyds bank	GW
18/05/09	On the 29 th April 2009 the Defendant was committed to a Plea and Case Management Hearing at Worcester Crown Court on the 15 th June 2009.	GW
28/05/09	<p>E MAIL FROM CLT RE: indictment</p> <p><u>COUNT 1 - STATEMENT OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>FALSE ACCOUNTING</u> Contrary to Section 17(1)(a) of the Theft Act 1968</p> <p><u>PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>JULIAN WILSON</u> between the 1st day of January 2004 and the 31st day of December 2004 dishonestly and with a view to gain for himself falsified accounts required for an accounting purpose namely the Weekly Cash Accounts (Final) for Astwood Bank Post Office by making entries therein purporting to show that the amounts of cash in hand were greater than the true figures</p> <p><u>COUNT 2 - STATEMENT OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>FALSE ACCOUNTING</u> Contrary to Section 17(1)(a) of the Theft Act 1968</p> <p><u>PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>JULIAN WILSON</u> between the 1st day of January 2005 and the 31st day of December 2005 dishonestly and with a view to gain for himself falsified accounts required for an accounting purpose namely the Weekly Cash Accounts (Final) for Astwood Bank Post Office by making entries therein purporting to show that the amounts of cash in hand were greater than the true figures</p> <p><u>COUNT 3 - STATEMENT OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>FALSE ACCOUNTING</u> Contrary to Section 17(1)(a) of the Theft Act 1968</p> <p><u>PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>JULIAN WILSON</u> between the 1st day of January 2006 and the 15th day of January 2007 dishonestly and with a view to gain for himself falsified accounts required for an accounting purpose namely the Final Branch Trading Accounts for Astwood Bank Post Office by making entries therein purporting to show that the amounts of cash in hand were greater than the true figures</p> <p><u>COUNT 4 - STATEMENT OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>FRAUD</u> Contrary to Section 1 of the Fraud Act 2006</p> <p><u>PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>JULIAN WILSON</u> between the 15th day of January 2007 and the 14th day of February 2008 dishonestly and intending thereby to make gain for himself or another abused his position as Subpostmaster of Astwood Bank Post Office in which he was expected to safeguard the financial interests of Post Office Limited by enabling a substantial deficiency to arise, by failing to make good that deficiency whilst pretending that he had done so and by falsifying entries in Final Branch Trading Statements in breach of Section 4 of the Fraud Act 2006</p> <p><u>COUNT 5 - STATEMENT OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>FRAUD</u> Contrary to Section 1 of the Fraud Act 2006</p> <p><u>PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE</u></p> <p><u>JULIAN WILSON</u> between the 12th day of February 2008 and the 17th day of December 2008 dishonestly and intending thereby to make</p>	GW

	gain for himself abused his position as Subpostmaster of Astwood Bank Post Office in which he was expected to safeguard the financial interests of Post Office Limited by enabling a substantial deficiency to arise, by failing to make good that deficiency whilst pretending that he had done so and by falsifying entries in Final Branch Trading Statements in breach of Section 4 of the Fraud Act 2006	
18/06/09 MEMO FROM CLT	<p>The above named Defendant appeared at Worcester Crown Court on 15 June 2009.</p> <p>Following discussions between Counsel and consultation with this Office, the Defendant pleaded guilty to Counts 4 and 5 of the Indictment on an agreed basis reflecting the full loss of approximately £27,800.</p> <p>A pre-sentence report was requested and the case was adjourned.</p> <p><i>This matter is now listed on 3 August 2009 for sentence.</i></p> <p>The case was adjourned to the above date to give the Defendant ample opportunity to sell the post office and thereby repay the loss prior to sentence. The Sect 18 statement was not signed or served at Court however, in the event the outstanding sum is not repaid, confiscation proceedings will be considered at the next hearing.</p> <p>S18 prepared and e-mailed to Jennee Andrews</p>	GW
17/07/09	Letter received from Astwood Law solicitors re: charge on Lineholt Close. Spoke with Graham Clark who will e-mail me details of the charge and clarification of how they would like RM to deal with their request to apply the registration of the re-mortgage which replaces the charge with the Bank Of Scotland and which only exceeds this charge by £400.	GW
24/07/09	<p>E mail from Graham Clark received - responded to Jarnail</p> <p><i>Mr Ward,</i></p> <p><i>Thank you for phoning me this afternoon following my request to you for your company's consent to the registration of the charge in favour of Lloyds TSB over Mr and Mrs Wilson's property. Specifically you asked me the amount of the charge being paid off and the amount of the replacement charge. The redemption figure for the old charge to Royal Bank of Scotland was £39,638.93. I received from the new mortgage company Lloyds TSB £40,000, but on checking my papers carefully, it appears to be the case that the actual amount of the new mortgage is £60,000. The mortgage was to secure an overdraft so I do not know whether the other £20,000 has been used up in that way.</i></p> <p><i>I now await hearing from you please simply with your company's letter consenting to the registration of the new charge. I note you already appreciate the point that I'm about to make but I will if I may make it again. The replacement of the RBS charge with the Lloyds charge was completed in June 2008, six months before your Restraint Order. If RBS had dealt with their paperwork promptly, the new charge would have been registered well before the Restraint Order. I cannot see therefore that there is any ground for your objecting to issuing your consent.</i></p> <p><i>I might make the point as well that the RBS charge has at last been removed, but its replacement with the Lloyds charge awaits your consent. The present situation with the property is therefore unreal and needs to be regularised by the registration of the Lloyds charge.</i></p> <p><i>I hope I'm not unrealistic in thinking that I can hear from you by the end of the coming week, that is by 24 July. If that is unrealistic, or if you feel a further discussion with me would be helpful, please don't hesitate to speak to me again. Thank you.</i></p>	GW

	<p><i>Sincerely,</i></p> <p><i>Graham Clark</i></p>	
04/08/09	<p>T/P call from Gary T Wilson sentenced to 200 hrs community service on the 3rd at Worcester CC, POL awarded costs of £3500 provisional POCA Timetable set but will not 'kick in' until September to allow time for Wilson to pay back the £27K loss.</p> <p>A timetable for Confiscation proceedings was set as follows:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Defence to respond to Section 18 request by 11th September 2009. 2 Section 16 Prosecutors Statement to be served by 16th October 2009. 3 Defence to respond by 30th October 2009. 4 Prosecution response by 13th November 2009. 	GW
11/08/09	<p>Jarnail forwards e-mail & letter from Richard Nelson Sols</p> <p>Dear Mr Singh</p> <p>Further to our telephone conversation, please find attached a copy of the letter sent to you on 24th July 2009. You will note that enclosures were also sent. Can you please respond at the earliest opportunity. Mr Wilson is still in possession of the cheque and wishes to pay this into a restrained account. He is currently using a friends vehicle as a temporary stop gap and would appreciate your response at the earliest opportunity in order that he can purchase the vehicle referred to in the letter.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing from you at the earliest opportunity in order that we can then attend to drafting the appropriate Variation Order, if necessary.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>Charlotte Knight Solicitor Richard Nelson Solicitors</p> <p>* Email: [GRO] (Tel: [GRO] (Direct Dial [GRO]</p> <p>Copy of letter dated 24th July</p> <p>We represent Mr Julian Wilson and write in relation to his vehicle which is subject to the Restraint Order, namely the Volvo V70 2.4 classic, registration W251 JDA.</p> <p>Mr Wilson's wife was unfortunately involved in an incident in this vehicle on 23rd June 2009 which has resulted in the car being classified as a right off. Please find a letter from Bluecycle confirming the removal of the vehicle.</p> <p>Mr Wilson's insurers have provided £2250 in respect of the claim and have sent a cheque to Mr Wilson. Please find enclosed a letter confirming this. Mr Wilson has not yet banked this cheque as he was unsure how to proceed. However, he intends to bank the cheque into his Lloyds TSB account, account number 24486468, sort code 77-27-20.</p> <p>Mr Wilson needs a vehicle in order to carry out his business and for</p>	

	<p>personal use and there needs to purchase a replacement vehicle. He intends to purchase a VW Passat from an acquaintance of his. The value for this vehicle is £4250 but the vendor is willing to take £2250 on the condition that Mr Wilson provides the remainder at a later date when he is able to do so. Please find enclosed an invoice confirming the purchase of this vehicle.</p> <p>We would therefore be grateful if the Post Office could consent to the monies being released from the above named account to enable Mr Wilson to purchase the replacement vehicle.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Yours faithfully Amy Cheunviratsakul Legal Assistant</p> <p>My response dated 13/08/09</p> <p>Jarnail</p> <p>Sorry for the delay in responding but I've been on a training course this week.</p> <p>We have already varied the original restraint order to allow Mr & Mrs Wilson to use this account. The varied order was forwarded to you on the 16th Feb. An unstamped copy is attached below for your reference. I do not see why we would need to vary the order again, given this variation allows them to use the account.</p> <p></p> <p>Variation of Restraint Lloyds.doc</p> <p>With regards to the £2,250 he has received for the 'written off' Volvo given this asset was under restraint, I do not see why we would agree to allow him to use the money he has received, to buy another car when he still owes us over £27K.</p>	
13/08/09	<p>Memo from Jarnail re: Lloyds Charge</p> <p>I now enclose copy letter received from Lloyds TSB Solicitors together with enclosure. I note that the Mortgage Deed is not dated and I have requested them to provide me with a Mortgage Deed with the date so that we can determine that the mortgage was completed in June 2008 prior to the Restraining Order we have on the property. (no action for me)</p>	GW
26/08/09	<p>Memo from CLT re: Wilson purchasing a car</p> <p>I now enclose copy letter received from Richard Nelson, Solicitors instructed by Julian Wilson dated 20th August 2009 which is self explanatory. They have omitted to enclose the document relating to the purchase of the vehicle which I have requested them to supply.</p> <p>In the meantime if I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Kind regards.</p> <p>Jarnail Singh Senior Lawyer Criminal Law Division</p>	GW
15/09/09	<p>S18 response received 10th September</p>	GW

02/10/09	S16(3) sent to CLT - TO BE SERVED BY 16/10/09	GW
12/10/09	Memo from CLT confirms S16 served on defence- case listed for a half day hearing on the 17 th Dec 2009	GW
17/12/09	Confiscation Hearing - Worcester CC sitting at Hereford - HH Judge Rundell. T20090199 Benefit figure set £28,434.95 Available amount - not less than £40,497.00 Confiscation & Compensation to Post Office® Ltd set at £28,434.95. To be paid within 6 months or default sentence of 12 months imprisonment will be imposed. Case file posted to Manchester Casework Team 18 th December 2009-12-18 JARD updated - case ref 091414 (conf order ref 091215)	GW
18/06/10	Defence asking for 6 months extension Jarnail believes 3 months more appropriate Paul agrees and CLT will write to the court	GW
20/07/10	<u>REGINA v JULIAN WILSON - WORCESTER CROWN COURT</u> <u>APPLICATION TO AMEND THE CONFISCATION ORDER FOR TIME FOR PAYMENT - 9TH SEPTEMBER 2010 - CASE NO: POLTD/0809/0126</u> The above Application has been listed at Worcester Crown Court for the 9 th September 2010.	GW
14/09/10 e-mail from CLT	The above-named defendant appeared at Worcester Crown Court on 9 th September to apply for an extension of time of six months in order to sell the lease to his property. As three months had already expired, the court granted an extension to 15 th December 2010. Counsel, Richard Cole, has spoken to defence counsel who asked whether the vetting process of the people who want to buy the business, can be expedited. Apparently, Mr Wilson has accepted an offer of £70,000 for the business lease. Could you exert some pressure in this direction as, obviously, the sooner the lease is sold the sooner the Post Office gets its money. Best wishes, Phil Spoke with Sue Muddeman on the 17 th latest applicant Mistry has been rejected. e-mail sent to Sue Muddeman 24 th Sept.	GW
22/12/10	Jarnail I have received an e-mail this morning from the Magistrates Court dealing with the enforcement of this confiscation order. They have just received a cheque for £11K from Mr Wilson (which will be forwarded on in due course). They are going to wait to see if the outstanding sum (approx £17.4K) will be forwarded before listing the matter for an enforcement hearing. Regards Graham Ward	GW
22/12/10	Sue Muddeman confirms new Subpmtr application process will commence on 4 th Jan 2011.	GW

10/01/11	£11K cheque received from RART team.	GW
19/01/11	JARD details a further £11K received by RART team on the 14 th Jan.	GW
16/02/11	Graham (RART team) to establish current recovery position - confirms via t/p that £11K has been re-paid and will be forwarded in due course. e-mail to Jane asking she forward a copy of BOI statement to RART.	GW
09/03/11	Jarnail As discussed today, further to the e-mail below, please be advised that I interviewed Mrs Pardeep Malhi for the position of Subpostmaster, Astwood Bank branch on 2 March 2011 and she has provisionally been offered the appointment subject to receipt of satisfactory criminal records checks. For your information, the request for a criminal records check was submitted by our Agent Recruitment Team on 04.03.11 and the results are normally received within 7-10 days. I checked with Agent Recruitment today and unfortunately we have not had the results back as yet. Mrs Malhi had agreed to purchase the 'goodwill' of the business from Mr Wilson with the intention of re-locating the Post Office into her nearby family run convenience store. As this will be a branch relocation as part of our Charter we will have to undertake a public consultation exercise. I spoke with Zoe Hibberd today (Post Office Ltd Field Change Advisor) and Zoe informed me that she will be working to the following consultation timescales:- Consultation to commence 22.03.11 Decision taken following result of consultation 05.05.11 Decision communicated to opinion formers 19.05.11 Earliest date of opening in new location 16.06.11 I hope this is of some help. I will keep you up-dated on the progress of the application. If you need any further information please do not hesitate to give me a call on 07850 913804. Many thanks. Kind Regards Glenn Chester Restraint order still to be discharged - Lineholt Rd property	
19/05/11	Hello Graham, We have not received any payments from Julian Wilson since last year. Would you have any comments to make on us listing him for a default hearing at Birmingham Magistrates' Court? If we did go ahead with this, would you appoint someone to lead for the prosecution? I can send you a list of possible court dates if you agree that a court listing would be appropriate. Regards, Graham Graham Christie e-mail response advising to list for enforcement but Post Office® will not be appointing anyone.	
30/08/11	Enforcement Hearing 8 th Sept - (Matthew at WM RART) – Birmingham Mags Court Outstanding balance includes interest = £18,430.50.	
04/09/11	e-mail from RART Hi Graham Julian Wilson contacted me today and made full payment of £18,441.97. This accounts for	

	<p>order balance plus outstanding interest. The payment will appear on Jard on Tuesday 6 September when the order will be closed.</p> <p>Andrew - please note as this case is listed in your enforcement court on Thursday 8 September</p> <p>Regards, Matt</p>	
15/09/11	Due to loss being repaid, Discharge of Restraint Order obtained at Croydon Crown Court, signed by HH Judge Ainley. RX4 also completed and submitted to LR Coventry.	DP