

POST OFFICE LTD CONFIDENTIAL: INVESTIGATION, LEGAL

27.

Criminal Law Team – Mr Rob G Wilson

Ref: Allison HENDERSON – Worstead SPSO – POLTD/0910/1067

In response to your note dated 25th March 2010.

I believe that Mrs Henderson would have been aware of the shortage on 06/01/2010 when she completed the Branch Trading statement as a discrepancy was shown in the Horizon Events log.

I have spoken to a Manager at a Crown Office and she couldn't understand why such a large figure had been entered. She confirmed that the 'CASH' figures would have been entered manually and then the system produces the Discrepancy Positive or Negative entry. It would appear very strange that an 'error' was £20 different to the audit shortage discovered 4 weeks later.

Circumstantial possibly but Mrs Henderson hasn't been able to offer an explanation.

From the figures it maybe that the initial entry for £6967.28 may have been the actual cash on hand because at the audit the actual cash on hand figure was £8,669.57 this being £2,000 more and the office had Rems in that period for £10,000 (£8,500 & £1,500) The other CASH figure entry of £11,970.69 was probably the discrepancy shown and then this was re-input to achieve a ZERO balance.

I hope you feel we can continue with charges(s) of Theft & False Accounting.

If Mrs Henderson is to be believed and the BT was correct on 6th January 2010 she lost nearly £12k in 5 weeks to 10th February 2010. Then factor in that she is open two full days and two half days, so in essence three (3) full days. The £12k loss has occurred in 15 days. The largest transaction in that period was a Post Office® Card Account withdrawal for £400.

Since the interview Mrs Henderson has been in contact by telephone with Mr Alan Lusher, Contracts Manager, Mr Keith Kinrade, Auditor, and me. She has been saying that Mr Kinrade took the last 12 months of Horizon desktop printer reports. He denied this saying that he only took BT statements as they were required the printouts were not. This week she again telephoned me and said she wanted these printouts. I asked her why and she said she wanted to see the cash discrepancies in the account (losses and gains) at the BT period. I suggested that these would be shown on the BT statement, which she agreed but said she wanted the printouts.

I then told her that these cannot be re-printed but transaction disc could be obtained. She was getting quite irate and pushy so I reminded her that she had said during the interview that she knew nothing of the loss until the Audit.

At this point she calmed down saying not too worry about them. I do wonder whether this was some way of trying to cloud the issue by saying 'important data' had been taken by the Post Office®.

Christopher G Knight
Fraud Investigator
Post Office Ltd

20th April 2010