

Royal Mail Group

ROYAL MAIL – CONFIDENTIAL

Record of Taped Interview

Short Descriptive Notes

Person Interviewed	Katherine Jane McQue		Exhibit No: Number of pages: Signature of interviewing officer producing exhibit
Place of Interview	Training Room Kendal Delivery Office StircklandGate Kendal LA9 4AA	75	
Date of Interview	18 th June 2009		
Time commenced	12.41 hours	Time concluded	13.11 hours
Duration of Interview	0.30 minutes	Tape reference no	071391
Interviewing Officer(s)	Stephen Bradshaw	Paul Whitaker	
Other persons present	Ged McGrath (NFSP) – Friend		

Tape counter times	Person speaking	TEXT
0.10		Re- Introductions made, Mrs McQue was re-cautioned and reminded of her legal rights. She confirmed that she wished Mr McGrath were to remain as her Post Office Friend. Mrs North confirmed that she was not asked any questions during the break between tapes.
1.30		It was said to Mrs North that as the tape was coming to a close, we were talking about the inflation of the cash on hand. It was established that when Mrs McQue had returned from holiday in August 2008 she had inflated the cash on hand from 20 August 2008 Trading period five to 20 May 2009 Trading period 01.
2.00		Mrs McQue had said that she had not stolen any money but had inflated the cash to cover losses at the branch.
2.10	KMc	Yes
2.20		Mrs McQue said that she had kept a record of the losses but she no longer had these records. Mrs McQue said the inflated cash was spread across the other denominations when declaring the cash.
2.30	KMc	Yes I did.
2.40		Mrs McQue admitted that she declared the amount of cash that was shown on the Horizon system as being held at the branch.

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Tape counter times	Person speaking	TEXT
3.30		It was said that the cash shown on nine Branch Trading Statements had been inflated.
3.30		Mrs McQue was shown SB/7 a Horizon balance snapshot showing that £86,000 was held at the branch. She was shown SB/4, SB/5 and SB/6. It was explained these were cash declarations and she was asked why the coins and notes had been declared separately.
4.15		Mrs McQue said that this was the way she had been shown to do the cash declarations and explained that SB/4, SB/5 was the bulk cash figure and SB/6 the cash in the drawer.
6.15		Mrs McQue was asked to explain further the losses at the branch as she had only been inflating the cash to cover the losses since August 2008. Mrs McQue said that she had losses all the time she did not know what was causing the losses.
7.30	KMc	I haven't taken it and as far as I'm concerned I don't think the staff have. Mrs McQue had kept the losses to herself and not informed the staff, she thought they were errors and would come back.
08.45		She had not sought help from either Post Office Ltd or from the National Federation of sub postmasters and that it was her responsibility to get on with it.
9.45		When asked if the losses had increased or decreased when she employed new staff, replied it was only a year ago when they started, it has happened at the same time.
10.30		Mrs McQue explained how knew the amount of the loss on a daily basis.
12.50		Mrs McQue when asked denied ever taking money and the shortage is down to incompetence.
13.45		Mrs McQue said that she had not felt 100% with the Horizon system.
15.00		Mrs McQue explained what days she worked at the branch and what staff she employed since August 2008.
17.00		Mrs McQue confirmed that there was no password sharing and they only knew their own apart from the User ID ANY001.
17.45		Mrs McQue explained what days of the week the staff worked and the losses were not on any particular day.

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Tape counter times	Person speaking	TEXT
21.30		Mrs McQue was shown SB/6 again and asked for an explanation when the unusable notes were £7,000 and unusable coin £227.
21.40	KMc	That's was because I was putting some of the money on here, which would include postage as well Mrs McQue admitted that she had hidden the losses by inflating the cash on hand and by also putting an amount on the unusable notes and coins.
22.00		Mrs McQue confirmed that she used ANY001 for putting the postage through the system (e-bay for example) and that it could be anybody in the branch who could be putting the postage through because they all knew the password.
24.15		Mrs McQue said that when the customer came to pay the postage it would be put through whichever counter position the customer went to and not necessary ANY001.
25.15		The interview was summarised.
29.15		Mrs McQue was asked if she still agreed to a voluntary search of her home address.
29.30		Mrs McQue was informed that she might have rendered herself liable to prosecution and given the second caution. She was then given the opportunity to clarify anything that she had said or add anything to the interview but she declined the offer.
30.00		Mrs McQue was handed form GS019. All persons present signed the master tape seal 071391 and the tapes were switched off at 13.11.

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