



## INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2009-07-0134

November 6, 2009

### EVANSVILLE BMV THEFT

*Inspector General Staff Attorney Kristi Shute, after an investigation by Special Agent Darrell Boehmer, reports as follows:*

On July 7, 2009, the Office of the Inspector General received a report from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles ("BMV") regarding an internal investigation pertaining to theft. Specifically, the investigative report alleged that a Customer Service Representative ("CSR") from the Mount Vernon Branch ("Branch") stole a \$100 bill.

The report relayed that, on May 29, 2009 at approximately 9:30 a.m., the CSR received two \$100 bills as payment from a customer. Upon completing the transaction, the CSR took the bills to the Branch Manager to make change. The Branch Manager took the bills into the safe room, which is behind the service counter and only accessible to BMV employees. The Branch Manager made change for the CSR, but instead of placing both bills in the safe, kept one out to take to the bank. The Branch Manager became distracted by a phone call and other work and placed one of the bills on a file box while she attended to those

matters. The Branch Manager forgot about the bill and it was left unattended during this time.

Before leaving for lunch, the CSR took her till to the safe room and left it on the desk. The CSR was alone in the safe room at that time. Later in the afternoon, the Branch Manager remembered that she left the bill in the safe room. When she went to retrieve the bill, she could not locate it. A search was conducted and the bill could not be located.

In the course of the investigation, several employees were interviewed. Two employees reported that, on the day of the incident, the CSR's son had been in the Branch that morning and talked to his mother. The Branch Manager reported that, after the meeting with the employees to discuss the situation, the CSR made a telephone call. The CSR's daughter arrived at the Branch about twenty minutes after the phone call. The daughter was observed handing the CSR a handful of bills while stating that the money was the hundred, minus some money she spent on lunch, the CSR gave her son.

During her initial interview with a BMV investigator, the CSR denied taking the \$100 bill. She also stated that her son had not been in the Branch, but that she met him for lunch. She advised that the money her daughter had given her was from her payroll check which she had given her son at lunch for him to cash. At the end of the interview, the CSR was offered the opportunity to take a polygraph examination to which the CSR agreed. It was determined that the CSR was being deceptive when answering whether she had taken the money. Once

confronted with the examination results, the CSR eventually admitted taking the \$100 bill to pay an outstanding electric bill. She volunteered to pay the money back and wrote a letter of apology to the BMV.

Subsequently, when interviewed by Special Agent Boehmer, the CSR denied taking the \$100 bill. She explained that she admitted taking the money because she was tired and hungry and because the examiner kept accusing her of taking the money. She stated that she wrote the apology because that was what the examiner wanted her to say.

This case was submitted to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of Posey County. Criminal charges of Theft and Official Misconduct were filed on November 19, 2009. Accordingly, this case is closed.

Dated this 6th day of November, 2009.

APPROVED BY:



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David O. Thomas, Inspector General