

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Office of the Inspector General**

Inspector General



September 24, 2010

The Honorable Adrian M. Fenty  
Mayor  
District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mayor's Correspondence Unit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Suite 316  
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT**

Dear Mayor Fenty:

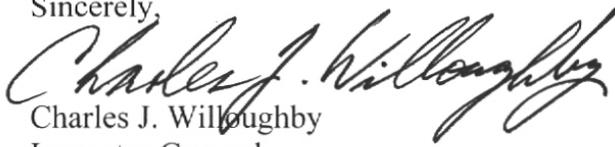
This report is to inform you of the recent sentencing of Rarsheeda Austin, who, working with others, engaged in a scheme to negotiate District and United States Treasury checks, obtained illegally through the United States Postal Service. As part of the scheme, Ms. Austin used fraudulent forms of government identification bearing the names, addresses, and dates of birth of the intended recipients of the checks.

On July 1, 2010, Ms. Austin pled guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud. On September 21, 2010, Ms. Austin was sentenced to 36 months probation, 80 hours community service, and payment of \$1,972.53 in restitution.

The investigation, which was conducted jointly by Senior Special Agent Derek Savoy, D.C. Office of the Inspector General, Postal Inspector Christopher Saunders, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Special Agent Levar Perkins, United States Secret Service and Special Agent Karma Knight, U.S. Postal Service Office of the Inspector General, revealed that between May 2008 and February 2010, Ms. Austin fraudulently negotiated two District government checks totaling \$1,972.53 intended for individuals receiving foster care subsidies.

If you need any additional information, please call me or Stacie Pittell, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, at (202) 727-2540. When calling, please reference OIG Control Number 2009-0223.

Sincerely,

  
Charles J. Willoughby  
Inspector General

CJW/das