

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Repeat Offender Arrested, Charged with Burglary on Chicago's Northwest Side

Chicago – On December 18, 2024, a joint investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and Chicago Police Department led to the arrest of Ashley Taylor, 35, of Chicago, IL. Taylor was identified as the suspect responsible for a condominium burglary and subsequent mail theft in Chicago, IL, on August 15, 2024.

Based on the joint investigation, Taylor was charged with one felony count of burglary by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. Taylor was previously arrested by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in April 2022 for mail theft from residential porches. Taylor was charged accordingly with theft of mislaid property by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and was convicted of that charge in September 2022. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service appreciates the assistance of the Chicago Police Department and the Cook County Sheriff's Office in this investigation.

"The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is dedicated to defending the nation's mail system from criminal activity, preserving the integrity of the U.S. Mail, and protecting United States Postal Service employees. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service values our law enforcement partners for supporting our mission." said Ruth M. Mendonça, Inspector in Charge of the Chicago Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

It is important to note that criminal charges are only allegations against a person. Every defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Anyone who feels they may be the victim of mail theft is urged to contact the Postal Inspection Service at 1-877-876-2455 or online at <u>www.uspis.gov/report</u>.

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