



# DICKINSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

4000 LIGGIO STREET  
DICKINSON, TEXAS 77539

(281) 337 4700

## PRESS RELEASE

### Pigeon Drop – Charges Filed



Surveillance Photo from Wendy's



Bonita Watson

On March 29, 2007, a nicely dressed black female suspect approached an 86-year-old female as she was parking her car in the Kroger's parking lot. The black female showed her a package that had a handwritten address on it. The black female asked the victim if she knew where the address was, the victim did not. The black female suspect asked if she could get in victim's car to call her boss. The victim agreed to let the suspect in the vehicle to call. The suspect led the victim to believe that her boss told her to open the package. The suspect opened the package; it contained what appeared to be a large amount of money. The suspect told the victim that her boss said that she could keep the money if no one claimed it, but that she would have to pay the taxes up front. The suspect offered the victim half interest in the money. She told the victim that they needed to go to the bank and have the auditors count the money so they knew how much tax to pay. But before going to the bank the victim and suspect stopped at the Wendy's Restaurant, where the restaurant video captured images of the suspect.

The victim drove the suspect to Amegy Bank. Upon arrival at the bank the suspect had the victim park next to a large van. The suspect got out of the car and walked towards the bank, bank video did not show the suspect entering the bank. When the suspect returned to the car she told the victim that the package contained \$250,000 dollars. The suspect told

the victim that she needed to pay \$9,500 dollars in taxes to secure her share. The victim drove to her home to get her checkbook. The victim returned to the bank, went inside and cashed a check for \$9,500 dollars. When the victim returned to her vehicle, the suspect met her. The suspect asked the victim to take her to Walgreen's so she could use the bathroom. The victim parked the car at Walgreen's the suspect exited walking towards the front door. The store's video shows the suspect walking past the front door into the parking lot. The victim waited in the car for several hours before she got out and looked for the suspect. The victim \$9,500 dollars was no longer in the car.

**In July the case was profiled on “Wheel of Justice,” a segment on KPRC TV’s news program. A concerned citizen, who viewed the show, recognized the suspect and contacted the Houston Police Department’s Swindle Unit. The suspect was identified as Bonita Watson, 55 years of age, of the 10500 block of Holyglenn in Houston, Texas. She also uses the name Brenda Christine Williams.**

**The Houston Police Department Detective J. R. Dees was working a case similar to the Dickinson case. He was able to charge Watson with felony theft and arrested her at her residence on August 2, 2007.**

**After interviewing Watson, Dickinson Police Department detectives obtained a warrant for her arrest. She is currently being held in the Harris County Jail.**

**Watson’s arrest record dates back to 1981. She has five burglary, two theft, one forgery, and one credit card abuse convictions. She is on parole until the year 2024.**

**Without the assistance of KPRC’s Wheel of Justice it is likely that this case would not have been solved.**

**If you have additional information on this case or other related con-games please contact Dickinson Police Department Detective Craig Fos at 281-337-6341 or Houston Police Department Detective J. R. Dees at 713-308-3118.**

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Case # 07000540