

PRC Criminal Law (provisions with respect to postal items)

Article 252 Whoever conceals, destroys or unlawfully opens another person's letter, thereby infringing upon the citizen's right to freedom of correspondence, if the circumstances are serious, shall be sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment of not more than one year or detention.

**Article 253 Where any staff of a government organ or an entity in such fields as finance, telecommunications, transportation, education or medical treatment, in violation of the State's provisions, sells or illegally provides personal information on citizens, which is obtained during the organ's or entity's performance of duties or provision of services, to others and where the circumstances are serious, shall be sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment not more than three years or criminal detention, and/or be fined.

Whoever illegally obtains the aforesaid information by stealing or any other means and where the circumstances are serious shall be punished under the preceding paragraph.

Where any entity commits either of the crimes as described in the preceding two paragraphs, it shall be fined, and the person in charge and other persons who shall be directly liable for the crime shall be punished pursuant to the applicable paragraph.

Any postal worker who opens without authorization or conceals or destroys mail or telegrams shall be sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment of not more than two years or criminal detention. Whoever steals money or property by committing the crime mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall be convicted and given a heavier punishment in accordance with the provisions of Article 264 of this Law.

**amended No. 10 Order of the Eleventh Session of the President of the People's Republic of China, Article 7 (2/28/2009).