



NEWS

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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BEAR PASTOR CONVICTED OF TAX AND THEFT CHARGES

(Wilmington, DE) – Director of Revenue Patrick T. Carter announced today that a Bear man was convicted by a Superior Court jury of two felony theft counts and three misdemeanor counts – including falsifying business records and income tax charges.

The jury acquitted Jamar E. Manlove, 28, of six other counts including identity theft, and failed to reach a verdict on 13 other counts including the most serious charge of racketeering.

Jamar E. Manlove, co-pastor of Vision Builders Christian Center in Bear, was accused of carrying out a scheme that falsely promised to help homeowners in default on their mortgages. According to court records, Manlove promised these struggling homeowners cash from the sale of their homes, and at the same time he would allow them to continue living in their homes as tenants and provide them with the opportunity to purchase their homes back at a later date.

Instead of assisting homeowners, Manlove would strip out the equity homeowners had accrued in their properties through substantial fees at closing which were paid directly to Manlove, his associates, or entities he controlled. In the end, homeowners were left in many cases with nothing and Manlove and others were compensated in excess of \$300,000.

During this period of time, Manlove failed to report this income on a State of Delaware income tax return, and lived a lavish lifestyle including the purchase of a \$600,000 home and a Mercedes.

Manlove faces up to four years in prison at sentencing for the two felony theft convictions and up to a year in prison for each of the three misdemeanors.

This case resulted from an investigation conducted by the Delaware Attorney General's Office and the Delaware Division of Revenue's Criminal Investigation Unit.

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