



NEWS

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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REHOBOTH BEACH STORE OWNER PLEADS GUILTY TO TAX CHARGES

(Wilmington, DE) – Director of Revenue, Patrick T. Carter announced today that a Rehoboth Beach store owner entered a guilty plea in NCC Superior Court to tax charges filed by the State of Delaware.

Jeanne P. Smith, 66, the owner and operator of a Sears retail outlet in Rehoboth Beach, pleaded guilty before NCC Judge Peggy L. Ableman to two misdemeanor counts of willfully failing to file her 2007 and 2008 Delaware personal income tax returns. She originally was charged in a three-count indictment in March 2011 with willfully failing to file her 2007 through 2009 state income tax returns.

As a result of the plea, Smith was sentenced to a suspended one-year prison term. In addition to the suspended sentence, Smith was placed on supervised probation for two years and ordered to pay a \$1,500 fine and the costs of prosecution. She also was ordered to pay restitution to the Division of Revenue.

An investigation conducted by the Division of Revenue's Criminal Investigation Unit revealed that Smith, a self-employed store owner, received more than \$3 million over a 15-year period, yet failed to report any of this income on a state income tax return. Instead, Smith chose not to file Delaware income tax returns even though she knew she was required to do so.

In addition to sanctions imposed by the court, Smith is required to file her tax returns and pay the full amount of taxes due, plus interest, as well as any penalties assessed by the Division of Revenue.

This case was prosecuted by the Delaware Attorney General's Office.

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