



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**Stephen J. Murphy  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Michigan**

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**For Immediate Release:**

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**EVENT: Sentenced**

**Defendant: Issa Hassan Unis**

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**Dearborn Man Pleads Guilty to Filing False Tax Return**

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A Dearborn man was sentenced to 5 months incarceration at a Residential Re-entry Center followed by 5 months home confinement during a 1 year of supervised release for filing a false tax return, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Issa Hassan Unis, 40, of Dearborn, was sentenced by United States District Judge Julian Abel Cook, Jr.

Unis pled guilty to one count of filing a false tax return for the year 2002, for failing to report income he received in the form of cash payments from his cousin, the manager of a BP gas station and convenience store Unis owned in Detroit. Unreported income for the additional years of 2000, 2001 and 2003 on Unis' tax returns was also included. Defendant was ordered to pay restitution of approximately \$141,000 for the tax losses for those years including interest and penalties. Unis also agreed to pay \$50,000 to the U.S. Department of Agriculture arising from food stamp fraud conducted at the BP gas station and convenience store. These amounts will be paid from over \$367,000 in cash seized from Unis during the execution of search warrants arising out of the food stamp fraud investigation. The Court further ordered Unis to pay a fine of \$30,000.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, “Cash operated businesses can easily give rise to unreported income that present a substantial challenge to enforcement of our tax laws. This case evidences the coordination of government agencies’ investigative resources as the tax offense investigation arose out of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s investigation of the food stamp fraud being conducted at the gas station and convenience store owned by Mr. Unis.”

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ross I. MacKenzie and was investigated by Special Agent Jeremy Haynie of the Internal Revenue Service and Mark McClutchey of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.