



U.S. Department of Justice

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE

GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENT CHARGING OWNER OF ROOFING COMPANY WITH TAX EVASION

INDICTMENT ALLEGES HE ATTEMPTED TO EVADE PAYING INCOME TAXES HE OWED FOR TWO YEARS

SALT LAKE CITY – David Roger Hemmert, a resident of Provo, owner of Northwind Roofing Company, has been charged in an indictment returned Wednesday afternoon by a federal grand jury with two counts of tax evasion. The indictment alleges he owes the federal government approximately \$100,000 for calendar year 2001 taxes and \$100,000 for calendar year 2002 taxes.

“The vast majority of Utah taxpayers pay their fair share of taxes. They deserve to know that individuals who commit tax crimes will be held accountable,” Brett L. Tolman, U.S. Attorney for Utah said today.

According to the indictment, Hemmert’s duties as owner of the company included, among other things, soliciting and entering into roofing

or construction contracts, paying employees and subcontractors on projects, and handling or supervising Northwind's day-to-day business operations. Hemmert also managed Northwind's financial activities, including receiving payments from customers, monitoring accounts receivable and payable, and preparing the company's financial statements.

The indictment alleges that Hemmert, in an attempt to evade a large portion of the federal taxes he owed for calendar year 2001, prepared and filed a tax return stating his taxable income for 2001 was zero and that the amount of tax due was zero. According to the indictment, Hemmert knew that his taxable income for the year was in excess of \$300,000 with an income tax of approximately \$100,000 owed to the federal government.

The second count of the indictment alleges that in calendar year 2002, Hemmert filed a return showing a taxable income of \$4,261 with a tax due of \$428.00. In fact, the indictment charges his taxable income for 2002 was in excess of \$300,000 with an income tax of approximately \$100,000 owed to the federal government.

"The prosecution of individuals who intentionally conceal income and evade taxes is a vital element in maintaining public confidence in our tax system," J. Wes Eddy, Special Agent in Charge for Las Vegas Field Office which includes Utah, said today.

A summons will be issued to Hemmert to appear for an initial appearance in federal court on May 6, 2008, at 9:15 a.m. in U.S. Magistrate Judge Sam Alba's courtroom. He faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted of the charges. Defendants charged in indictments are presumed innocent unless or until proven guilty in court.

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