



U.S. Department of Justice

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April 1, 2008

EVENT: Sentenced

Defendant: David W. Steele

Detroit Man Sentenced for Filing A False and Fraudulent Federal Income Tax Return

David W. Steele, 50, of Detroit, Michigan was sentenced to 6 months in a community confinement center, 6 months of home confinement and two additional years of probation for filing a false and fraudulent federal Income Tax Return, announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Maurice Aouate, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division.

The conviction and sentence arose from a 1040 Income Tax Return that David Steele filed in February of 2003. On that return, Steele falsely claimed that \$33,980.00 in federal income tax had been withheld from wages he had been paid by the entity Pastelle Company, Inc. Steele also falsely claimed a refund of \$23,157.00. In fact, no such taxes had been withheld and Steele was not entitled to any such refund from the Internal Revenue Service.

The sentence was imposed by United States District Court Judge Patrick J. Duggan. As part of the sentence, Judge Duggan ordered Steele to pay \$23,157.00 in restitution to the United States. Steele was also ordered to pay a fine of \$2,000.00.

In announcing today's sentence, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy commended the dedication and investigative work of the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations division.

"Protecting the integrity of the national tax system is an ongoing priority for this office," said United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy. "Defendants who falsify tax documents to avoid their tax obligations or to obtain money to which they are not entitled should expect to face vigorous prosecution under the law," added Murphy.

Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation's Special Agent in Charge Maurice M. Aouate stated, "Cheating on your taxes is the same as stealing. We should not expect the honest taxpayer to foot the bill for those who fraudulently defraud the IRS."