



Department of Justice

United States Attorney James R. Dedrick
Eastern District of Tennessee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 2, 2008

SHELBYVILLE CONVENIENCE STORE OWNER SENTENCED IN TAX CASE

[Chattanooga, TN]– Dharmendra B. Patel, 41, of Shelbyville, Tennessee, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Curtis L. Collier to serve nine (9) months in prison, followed by two (2) years of supervised release. Mr. Patel had previously made restitution in full to the IRS in the amount of \$114,059.

Patel, owner and operator of Pik N Check convenience and check-cashing store located in Shelbyville, Tennessee, pled guilty on February 7, 2008, to one count of income tax evasion. Patel admitted during the hearing that he filed his 2004 tax return with the Internal Revenue Service which stated his taxable income for the year was \$2,916. He admitted that his income for 2004 was actually around \$184,957.

As part of his plea agreement, Patel admitted that the information provide to his return preparer regarding the gross income figure generated by him was significantly understated for both 2003 and 2004. Mr. Patel failed to report income of approximately \$169,437 and \$182,041 for 2003 and 2004, respectively. Mr. Patel also admitted that the additional tax due and owing to the government as a result of this understatement is approximately \$53,232 for 2003 and \$60,827 for 2004.

This investigation was conducted by IRS Criminal Investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Gary

S. Humble represented the government.

For additional information, please contact United States Attorney James R. “Russ” Dedrick at 865-545-4167; Assistant U.S. Attorney Gary S. Humble at 423-752-5140; or, Public Information Officer Sharry Dedman-Beard at 865-545-4167.