## **NEWS RELEASE**



Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## BEAUMONT MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FAILING TO FILE INCOME TAX RETURN

(Beaumont, Texas) A 45-year-old Beaumont man pleaded guilty to failing to file a federal income tax return in the Eastern District of Texas.

MARK EDWARD MARTIN entered his plea to one count of failure to file his 1998 tax return before United States District Judge Marcia Crone this morning. In March, 2005, a federal grand jury returned a three-count indictment charging Martin with failure to file federal income tax returns for 1998, 1999, and 2000.

Matthew D. Orwig, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas, stressed the importance of filing income tax returns every year, "Reporting earned income to the federal government is required. We will continue to investigate and prosecute those who fail to report their income and pay their share of federal income taxes, even seven years after the taxes are due."

According to court documents, Martin received gross income in the amounts of \$269,689.93 during 1998, \$274,512.21 during 1999, and \$298,221.02 during 2000, and was required by law to file federal income tax returns for each of those years reporting his income.

Martin will be sentenced in approximately 90 days after completion of a presentence report. He faces up to one year in prison, a fine of up to \$25,000, and restitution. Martin remains free on bond pending sentencing.

The case is being investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert L. Rawls.

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