

March 19, 2004

News Release

Glenn T. Suddaby, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, announced today that TIMOTHY C. BLACKMAN, age 33, of Auburn, New York, pled guilty to a one count information charging him with a willful attempt to evade and defeat federal income taxes, in violation of Title 26 United States Code, Section 7201. The guilty plea was entered in Federal District Court in Syracuse, New York before District Judge Norman A. Mordue, who will sentence BLACKMAN on July 19, 2004, at 10:30 a.m. in Syracuse, New York. BLACKMAN faces a maximum term of up to 5 years in prison; 3 years supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine.

According to the facts of the case, which are outlined in the plea agreement, BLACKMAN received gross income during 1998 exceeding \$254,000, and owed approximately \$75,998 in federal income taxes on his earnings. BLACKMAN willfully attempted to evade his income tax liability by failing to make an income tax return by April 15, 1999, as required by law. BLACKMAN further failed to pay the Internal Revenue Service for said income tax, and failed to maintain true and accurate records of business income and expenses. In addition, the government will argue at sentencing that Blackman

evaded approximately \$107,090 in additional taxes due for the 1997, 1999 and 2000 tax years.

The charges against BLACKMAN follow an investigation undertaken by agents from the Criminal Investigation Unit of the Internal Revenue Service, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Anne Marie Coons. Further inquiries can be directed to Assistant United States Attorney Thomas A. Capezza, Syracuse, New York at (315) 448-0672.