



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA NEWPORT NEWS NORFOLK RICHMOND

CHUCK ROSENBERG, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FEBRUARY 1, 2007

Jim Rybicki
Public Information Officer
Phone: (703) 842-4050 Fax: (703) 549-5202
E-Mail: usavae.press@usdoj.gov
Website: www.usdoj.gov/usao/vae

Further Information Contact:
Deanna Warren
Phone: (757) 441-6331

Former IRS Revenue Officer Pleads Guilty to Structuring \$1.4 Million

(Norfolk, VA) – Mohamed Hassan Soliman, age 56, a former Revenue Officer with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and co-owner of Carrollton Tobacco Company, located in Carrollton, Virginia, pled guilty today to violating federal law prohibiting individuals from structuring financial transactions to evade reporting requirements. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced the guilty plea. Soliman admitted to illegally structuring 141 cash deposits totaling \$1,404,314, between March 2005 and September 2006, in order to prevent banks from filing reports that are monitored by the IRS.

According to court documents, Soliman was employed as a Revenue Officer with the IRS from September 24, 1990 to April 3, 2004, and knew that financial institutions are required to file currency transaction reports for currency transactions in excess of \$10,000. In March 2005, Soliman joined co-defendant Abdelhady Abdelhady in owning and operating Carrollton Tobacco Company, a convenience store. Almost immediately Soliman began structuring deposits into two accounts by breaking down large sums of cash into amounts less than \$10,000. During the course of the investigation, Soliman was recorded advising a cooperating witness to structure another store's deposits in order to avoid IRS scrutiny.

Co-defendant Abdelhady, who was convicted in 2003 for a federal tax violation, is currently a fugitive and believed to be living in Egypt. Soliman will be sentenced on May 8, 2007. He faces up to ten years in prison. Soliman has agreed to forfeit \$36,387.26 in funds involved in the structuring activity.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the IRS-Criminal Investigation Division led the investigation. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Blair Perez.

###