

United States Attorney's Office District of Connecticut Press Release

September 5, 2007

DAYVILLE LIQUOR STORE OWNER WHO TRIED TO BRIBE IRS AGENT IS SENTENCED

Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that PAUL HUYNH, age 52, of Dayville, Connecticut, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Alvin W. Thompson in Hartford to three years of probation for attempting to bribe an Internal Revenue Service agent. Judge Thompson also ordered HUYNH to pay a fine in the amount of \$3000, and to forfeit to the Government an additional \$10,000. HUYNH pleaded guilty to the offense on February 27, 2007.

According to documents filed with the Court and statements made in court, HUYNH is the owner of *Dayville Fine Wines and Spirits*, *LLC*, located at 13 Railwood Avenue in Dayville. In approximately May 2005, a Revenue Agent of the Internal Revenue Service was assigned to audit HUYNH's 2003 and 2004 tax returns. The Revenue Agent met with HUYNH on numerous occasions during the audit process. During one meeting on December 15, 2005, HUYNH agreed to give \$3,000 in cash and three bottles of wine to the Revenue Agent. The Revenue Agent refused both the money and the champagne, and subsequently reported the incident to Special Agents of the U.S. Treasury Department, Inspector General for Tax Administration.

On December 21, 2005, the Revenue Agent, now working with the Inspector General for Tax Administration, returned to *Dayville Fine Wines and Spirits* and asked HUYNH about the gift that HUYNH had previously offered. HUYNH agreed to give the money and wine to the Revenue Agent and, in exchange, HUYNH informed the Revenue Agent that he wanted his returns corrected. During this meeting, HUYNH acknowledged that he could get in trouble for giving the things of value to the Revenue Agent. HUYNH then provided the Revenue Agent with \$3,000 in cash and three bottles of wine.

During another meeting on January 9, 2006, HUYNH agreed to give the Revenue Agent \$7,000 to make any remaining problems with the 2004 tax return "go away" and to take care of any tax problems with the 2003 tax return.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the U.S. Treasury Department, Inspector General for Tax Administration, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nora R. Dannehy.

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