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Former Windham Man Sentenced for Tax Evasion

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced that today **Gonzalo J. Pena**, 38, formerly of Windham, Maine, was sentenced to 10 months confinement by United States District Court Judge D. Brock Hornby in Portland. **Pena** was ordered to serve the first five months in prison, and the remaining five months in home confinement with electronic monitoring. He was also ordered to serve three years of supervised release following his term of confinement.

Pena was employed in the latter part of the 1990's by Sebago, Inc., a shoe company based in Maine, as its sales manager in Latin America. **Pena** was not permitted to sell Sebago shoes in Venezuela, however, because Sebago had an exclusive distributorship with another party in that country. **Pena** nevertheless arranged for the sale of Sebago shoes to companies he knew would resell them in Venezuela, concealing that fact from Sebago. In return, he received payments from those companies totaling over \$300,000. **Pena** failed to report those payments on his federal income tax returns for 1997 and 1998, resulting in a combined tax deficiency for those two years of nearly \$113,000.

U.S. Attorney Silsby praised the investigative efforts of the Internal Revenue Service in this matter.