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ST. MARYS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DODGING TAXES

WICHITA, KAN. – **Gregory E. Pflum**, 38, St. Marys, Kan., pleaded guilty Tuesday to one count of attempting to evade income taxes by failing to file a tax return.

"Mr. Pflum maintained that income tax laws did not apply to him," said U.S. Attorney Eric Melgren. "Despite repeated warnings, he stopped filing tax returns and followed his father's example by transferring his assets into trusts for the purpose of evading taxes."

Pflum's father, David G. Pflum, was found guilty of tax evasion in 2004 and sentenced to 30 months in federal prison.

Gregory Pflum was indicted in October 2006. He entered a guilty plea Tuesday during a hearing before U.S. District Judge Sam A. Crow. In his plea, Pflum admitted that he stopped submitting annual tax returns and paying income tax after going to work for Coil Spring Specialties in St. Marys, Kan., where he worked from 1990 to 2003.

When representatives of the Internal Revenue Service contacted him, he responded by giving them materials supplied by lawyers and tax advisers who were part of a tax protester movement and were referred to him by his father. He challenged the tax system and told IRS representatives that he did not intend to pay income taxes.

Pflum is set for sentencing Oct. 24, 2007. He faces a maximum penalty of 5 years in federal prison and a fine up to \$100,000.

Melgren commended the Internal Revenue Service and Assistant U.S. Attorney Christine Kenney for their work on the case.

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