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BOWLING GREEN MAN SENTENCED TO 37 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT FOR TAX EVASION

Concealed approximately \$3 million income over 5 Years
Ordered to pay \$1,467,952 in restitution

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that Richard P. Underwood, 53 years of age, of Bowling Green, Kentucky, was sentenced to 3 years and 1 month imprisonment by Judge Thomas B. Russell, United States District Court, as a result of his conviction on six counts of tax evasion. Judge Russell also sentenced Underwood to 3 years supervised release after incarceration, and ordered him to pay restitution to the IRS in the amount of \$1,467,952. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

On June 6, 2007, Underwood entered a guilty plea to willful evasion of his federal income tax responsibilities for the years 1998 through 2003, during which time he earned over \$3 million in taxable income, by, among other things, concealing his earnings from the Internal Revenue Service by directing his employer to pay his salary and wages in the form of checks issued in the names of two shell companies Underwood established in the names of Nighthawk Securities and All-American Investors. Underwood also filed false and fraudulent income returns in March 2004, for the years 1998 through 2002, in which Underwood falsely claimed on each return a deduction equal in amount to his gross earnings as "a necessary expense for production of income," resulting in a fraudulent claim on each return that Underwood owed no taxes to the Internal Revenue Service.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jim Lesousky, and was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation, Bowling Green, Kentucky, office.