

The United States Attorney's Office

District of Massachusetts

Press Releases

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: SAMANTHA MARTIN THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2007 PHONE:
(617) 748-3139 WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/MA SAMANTHA.MARTIN@USDOJ.GOV

FORMER IRS EMPLOYEE CHARGED IN HOME DEPOT FRAUD SCAM

BOSTON, MA - A former IRS employee was charged today in federal court with a scheme to defraud Home Depot of more than \$330,000.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan and Kevin McGlynn, Special Agent in Charge of the Department of Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration for the New York Field Office, announced today that ROBERT P. DOOLEY, 47, formerly of 13 Warren Street in Salem, Massachusetts, was charged in an Information with twelve counts of wire fraud.

The Information alleges that over a three-year period between May 2002 and October 2005, DOOLEY defrauded Home Depot of more than \$330,000 through the use of his IRS identification badge. The Information alleges that DOOLEY, who was employed by the IRS as a clerk at the Andover, Massachusetts Service Center in 2001 and 2002, would steal items from Home Depot stores and then "return" them for store credit. It is alleged that DOOLEY used his IRS identification badge to persuade returns clerks to give him store credit even though he had no receipt for the items stolen. It is alleged that DOOLEY then sold or traded the store credit cards at a discounted rate.

According to the Information, DOOLEY perpetrated this scam more than three hundred times at Home Depot stores in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Vermont, New York, Rhode Island, Texas and Oklahoma. State court records reveal that DOOLEY was apprehended in October 2005, while attempting to perpetrate the scam at a Home Depot store in Reading, Massachusetts. He has been serving a state sentence at the Essex County House of Correction since that time.

If convicted, DOOLEY faces up to 20 years imprisonment, to be followed by three years of supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine on each of the twelve counts.

The case was investigated by the Department of Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John T. McNeil in Sullivan's Public Corruption and Special Prosecutions Unit.

The details contained in the Information are allegations. The defendant is presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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