



U.S. Department of Justice

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June 29, 2009

Event: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Gary Heraud

Bloomfield Business Owner Pleads Guilty to Tax Evasion Charges

Gary Heraud, 60, of Bloomfield, Michigan, pleaded guilty to two counts of tax evasion, announced United States Attorney Terrence Berg.

Mr. Berg was joined in an announcement by Special Agent in Charge Maurice M. Aouate, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation.

According to court records, during the tax years 2003 and 2004, Heraud owned and operated Communicom, Inc., Aceros Inc. and Precept, Inc., receiving over \$700,000 in taxable income. On his 2003 federal income tax return, he only reported interest income of \$4,140 while reporting a business loss of \$5,806. In 2004, Heraud failed to report any income, while diverting funds through his corporate bank accounts. This resulted in a tax loss to the IRS of over \$197,000.

United States Attorney Berg stated, "Our system depends on the voluntary compliance of citizens with our shared responsibility to pay taxes. Prosecution of individuals who

intentionally and willfully file false tax returns is a vital element in maintaining public confidence in our tax system."

"Cheating on your taxes is the same as stealing," said Aouate. "We should not expect the honest taxpayer to foot the bill for those who hide income from the IRS."

Tax evasion carries a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000, per count.

A sentencing date was set for September 22, 2009 at 2:00 pm before United States District Court Judge Paul D. Borman.

United States Attorney Berg thanked the special agents from IRS Criminal Investigation for their investigation of the case. The case is being prosecuted by the Assistant United States Attorney Bruce C. Judge.