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RICHLAND BUSINESSMAN SENTENCED FOR FEDERAL TAX VIOLATION

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Richland, Mo., business owner was sentenced in federal court today for failing to truthfully account for and pay federal employment taxes he collected from his employees.

Kenneth David Goff, 46, of Richland, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this morning to one year and one day in federal prison without parole.

On April 13, 2004, **Goff** pleaded guilty to failure to truthfully account for and pay federal employment taxes he collected from his employees.

Goff conducted business as DCM Construction Consulting, Inc., in Richland, where he prepared business and personal income tax returns and provided payroll services for clients.

By pleading guilty, **Goff** admitted that during the fourth quarter of the year 1998 he deducted and collected from the total taxable wages of his employees federal income taxes and Federal Insurance Contributions Act taxes totaling \$31,081. **Goff** admitted that he failed to truthfully account for and pay over to Internal Revenue Service the federal income taxes withheld and Federal Insurance Contributions Act taxes due and owing to the government.

Goff also admitted that he prepared false federal employment tax returns for his corporation, knowing that the returns were not true and correct. **Goff** reported false wage and tax amounts on eight of the DCM quarterly employment tax returns, Graves said, resulting in a total tax loss of \$97,056.

"The willful failure to pay over any federal tax is a serious federal tax violation," said Al Patton, Special Agent in Charge of IRS Criminal Investigation. "These acts increase the tax burden on the majority of our citizens and employers that fully comply in meeting their tax obligations."

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lawrence E. Miller. It was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow