

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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EAST ST. LOUIS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO TAX EVASION

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 21, 2007, **LAMAR GENTRY**, age 60, of East St. Louis, Illinois, pled guilty to the offense of Tax Evasion. The offense carries a total statutory maximum possible punishment of up to five years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and three years supervised release. Sentencing is scheduled for May 21, 2007. The Government will request that counts not affecting the sentence be dismissed at the time of sentencing.

LAMAR GENTRY admitted as part of the plea that he evaded the assessment of federal income tax from 2000 through 2004 for his personal income tax and also corporate income tax. **GENTRY** admitted as part of the plea that he had not filed either a corporate or individual income tax return for the calendar years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004. **LAMAR GENTRY** admitted, in the Stipulation of Facts filed at the time of the plea, that during the time of the offense, he worked as the Village Administrator for the Village of Alorton, worked on a contractual basis with the Village of Washington Park, and did contractual work for the Illinois Department of Transportation. **GENTRY** admitted as part of the plea, that during the years 2000-2004, he failed to separate business versus personal expenses, and routinely paid personal expenses, such as his student loan payments, from his corporate checking account. **GENTRY** admitted as part of the plea that he did not have a personal bank account and that he used the business checking account of "The Gentry Group" to pay all personal expenses including grocery purchases, personal credit card expenses, payments for television service, dry cleaning, and his gym membership.

The investigation was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service, Office of Criminal Investigations. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.

If you suspect or know of an individual or company that is not complying with the tax laws, you

may report this activity by contacting the local Internal Revenue Service/Criminal Investigation Office or by mailing information to:

Internal Revenue Service

Fresno, CA 93888

Please include the following information, if available:

Name and address of the person you are reporting, the taxpayer identification number (social security number for an individual or employer identification number for a business), a brief description of the alleged violation, including how you became aware of or obtained the information, the years involved, the estimated dollar amount of any unreported income, and your name, address and daytime telephone number.

Although you are not required to identify yourself, it is helpful to do so. Your identity can be kept confidential. You may also be entitled to a reward.