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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Burnsville woman sentenced for failing to pay employment taxes

A 33-year-old Burnsville woman was sentenced today in federal court for failing to pay the Internal Revenue Service payroll taxes from employees of a construction business.

On April 20 in St. Paul, United States District Court Judge Patrick Schiltz sentenced Kara Kristine Sommer to 18 months in prison and three years of supervised release on one count of failure to pay over withheld taxes. Sommer was indicted on July 21, 2008, and pleaded guilty on Oct. 9.

According to Sommer's plea agreement, she admitted withholding or causing to be withheld amounts for federal income taxes and Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes from the wages of employees of Frontier Construction, Inc., located in Burnsville, from April 1, 2002, through Sept. 30, 2006.

Sommer was responsible for accounting, payroll management and income taxes for Frontier Construction. Her duties included withholding federal payroll taxes from employee paychecks and paying over the withheld taxes to the IRS. From April 1, 2002, to Sept. 30, 2006, Sommer deducted and collected federal income taxes and FICA taxes from the taxable wages of Frontier employees. Sommer admitted that during the tax years of 2001 through 2005, she willfully failed to account for and to pay over to the IRS a total amount of taxes of nearly \$200,000.

This case was the result of an investigation by the IRS-Criminal Investigation Division and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David M. Genrich.