



# Department of Justice

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Southern District of Iowa

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## **POLK CITY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FILING FALSE INCOME TAX RETURN AND WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM U. S. RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD**

DES MOINES, IA - Mark Anthony Reetz, age 56, of Polk City, Iowa, pled guilty on October 27, 2011, to filing a false tax return and failing to provide information to the United States Railroad Retirement Board, announced United States Attorney Nicholas A. Klinefeldt. United States District Judge James E. Gritzner scheduled a sentencing hearing for January 27, 2012, at 11:00 a.m., at the United States Courthouse in Des Moines.

According to the written plea agreement, in 2004, Reetz was the operator of Reetz & Sons Construction, a business primarily engaged in the building of homes. During the year 2004, Reetz failed to report income he received from the business on his individual tax return. Additionally, during this time, Reetz received occupational disability benefits from the United States Railroad Board. Reetz failed to report his work with Reetz & Sons Construction, as well as any income from the business, to the United States Railroad Retirement Board. Reetz's failure to disclose this information resulted in an overpayment of benefits to Reetz. As part of his plea, Reetz has agreed to pay \$30,401 in restitution to the United States Railroad Retirement Board, and \$21,360 to the Internal Revenue Service.

Filing a false income tax return, signed under penalties of perjury, carries a maximum penalty of three years in prison, a fine of up to \$100,000, or both a fine and imprisonment.

Failing to provide information to the United States Railroad Retirement Board, carries a maximum penalty of one year in prison, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both a fine and imprisonment.

These criminal penalties are in addition to any additional tax, interest, and/or penalties that the Internal Revenue Service could seek based on the under-reporting of income and/or the filing of fraudulent income tax returns.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division; and the Office of the Inspector General, United States Railroad Retirement Board, and was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Iowa.