

Department of Justice

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FORMER BUFFALO MAN IS SENTENCED FOR MAIL FRAUD AND TAX EVASION

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Bernard Lane, 50, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, who was convicted of mail fraud and tax evasion, was sentenced to 41 months in prison by U.S. District Judge Richard J. Arcara.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Trini E. Ross, who handled the case, stated that between April 2003 and November 2006, the defendant was employed as the Director of the Information Technology Department at Williams Advanced Materials. During that time, Lane directed the purchase of 251 laptop computers and directed that invoices be submitted to Williams Advanced Materials for payment. After receiving the computers, the defendant then sold them to another individual for approximately \$175,000. For the tax years 2005 through 2007, Lane failed to file federal income tax returns which would have included the money he received for the sale of the laptop computers. As a result, the defendant owes the Internal Revenue Service approximately \$58,524.00 in unpaid taxes.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the direction of Special Agent in Charge, Christopher M. Piehota and the Internal Revenue Service under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Toni Weirauch.

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