



U.S. Department of Justice

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**PRESS RELEASE
*OWNER OF LA AUTENTICA GROCERY STORE
SENTENCED TO 18 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FILING FALSE TAX RETURN***

SALT LAKE CITY – Jose Gilardo Soto-Moya, age 44, of Riverton, has been sentenced to 18 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to making and subscribing to a false tax return.

U.S. District Judge David Sam, who imposed the sentence, also placed Soto-Moya on supervised release for 12 months when he finishes his prison sentence.

As a part of a plea agreement reached with federal prosecutors, Soto-Moya admitted that from 2004 through 2006, he was the owner and operator of the La Autentica grocery store and taquerias. He filed tax returns for the tax years 2004, 2005, and 2006 claiming total income amounts on the returns of \$49,277, \$51,790, and \$64,313, respectively for a total of \$165,380 for the period.

However, according to the plea agreement, based on extensive cash deposits into his bank accounts, IRS agents more accurately placed his income for that period at more than a \$1 million. Agents placed the income

for 2004 at \$310,322; 2005 at \$368,669; and 2006 at \$638,275 for a total income of \$1,317,266.

In the plea agreement, Soto-Moya admitted that although the market and restaurants conducted far less business than what would justify the large amounts of cash going through the bank accounts, he claimed that all cash deposits came from those businesses as opposed to any other source.

Soto-Moya admitted that at the time he signed the returns, he knew that he had not declared all of his income on the returns.

As a part of the plea agreement reached with Soto-Moya, federal prosecutors agreed to dismiss a charge of unlawful possession of a firearm charged in a separate criminal case.

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