Office of the United States Attorney Western District of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 10, 2010 WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/WIW

CONTACT: JOHN W. VAUDREUIL PHONE: (608) 264-5158 TTY: (608) 264-5006

SUN PRAIRIE MAN SENTENCED FOR TAX EVASION

Madison, Wis. - Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Francisco Tejeda, 55, Sun Prairie, Wis., was sentenced yesterday for filing false federal tax returns resulting in a tax loss to the United States of \$37,280. Chief Judge Barbara B. Crabb sentenced Tejeda to six months in custody and ordered him to pay a \$10,000 fine by March 1, 2010.

Tejeda operated La Hispana, a speciality grocery store in Madison, Wis., and pleaded guilty to filing a false tax return for tax year 2004. This return reported that the cost of phone cards sold at La Hispana was approximately \$21,000 during that tax year, when in fact the cost of the actual phone cards was approximately \$164,000. Judge Crabb found that Tejeda willfully under-reported these business expenses so he could hide income and not arouse the suspicions of the IRS.

United States Attorney Sinnott stated that yesterday's sentencing follows an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division in Madison. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

####