

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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ROCHESTER MAN ARRESTED FOR FILING FALSE TAX RETURNS

ROCHESTER, N.Y.- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that a federal grand jury has returned an Indictment charging Patrick Dandrea, 55, of Rochester, N.Y., with two counts of filing false tax returns. Each count carries a maximum sentence of three years in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Craig R. Gestring, who is handling the case, stated that according to the Indictment, the defendant was awarded a contract with Erie County in 2006 to remove damaged trees and branches following a severe snow storm. As a result of this contract, Dandrea received over \$5,000,000 in payments which he failed to report on his 2006 and 2007 Federal Income Tax Returns.

The defendant was arrested this morning and will be arraigned before U.S. Magistrate Judge Jonathan W. Feldman at 12:00 p.m. today in Rochester.

The arrest and Indictment are the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigations Division, under the direction of Victor Lessoff, Special Agent in Charge and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Christopher M. Piehota.

The fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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