



*U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Southern District of Mississippi*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 4, 2011**

Jackson Woman Pleads Guilty to Bribery of a Public Official

Jackson, Miss - Rene Coleman, age 63, of Jackson, pled guilty in federal court on Thursday, February 3, to Bribery of a Public Official, U.S. Attorney John M. Dowdy, Jr. announced. Coleman admitted to paying an IRS employee \$2,000.00 in cash in an attempt to have her federal tax liability reduced. The investigation, which was conducted by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, Office of Investigations, began when Coleman, during a routine audit, offered to pay the employee if she reduced the amount of money Coleman owed to the IRS. The employee notified her supervisor of Coleman's overture and thereafter federal law enforcement agents were contacted.

Coleman will be sentenced by U.S. District Judge Daniel P. Jordan III, on April 27, 2011, and faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

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