



Department of Justice

United States Attorney John W. Vaudreuil
Western District of Wisconsin

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

BELOIT TAX PREPARER PLEADS GUILTY

Madison, Wis. - John W. Vaudreuil, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Dawn M. Shick, 40, of South Beloit, Ill., pleaded guilty yesterday afternoon in U.S. District Court in Madison to filing false tax returns for taxpayers for the year 2007. U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb scheduled sentencing for November 18, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. Shick faces a maximum penalty of three years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The government's proof at the guilty plea hearing established that Shick operated "DMS Tax Service, LLC" in Beloit, Wis. For tax year 2007, Shick prepared and filed false income tax returns for 28 individuals and entities; on these returns, she underreported corporate income, inflated non-cash charity deductions, and inflated business expenses, all of which resulted in larger refunds or reduced taxes for the taxpayers.

Shick pleaded guilty to Count 1 of the indictment, which involved a tax return she prepared and filed for Abbott Marketing, Inc. On this return, Shick inflated the deductions which reduced the total tax due by \$3,818. The government's proof at the guilty plea hearing established that the taxpayers were unaware that Shick was changing their tax returns.

United States Attorney Vaudreuil stated yesterday's guilty plea was the result of an investigation conducted by the Madison office of the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of the case has been handled by United States Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

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