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WISCONSIN RAPIDS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FILING FALSE TAX RETURN

Madison, Wis. - John W. Vaudreuil, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Timothy W. Buick, 48, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in Madison to attempting to evade personal income tax by filing a false tax return. U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb scheduled sentencing for May 19, 2011. Buick faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, and the costs of prosecution.

Buick was charged following a criminal investigation by the Internal Revenue Service into his business partnership, River Valley Timber. The investigation found that Buick had understated gross receipts on his tax returns of the partnership and his personal income tax returns between 2002 - 2005, resulting in taxes between \$80,000 and \$200,000 not being paid. As part of his plea agreement, Buick agreed to cooperate with the Collection Division of the IRS regarding the payment of all taxes, interest, and penalties due and owing.

"The IRS works diligently to uncover people who evade taxes, like Mr. Buick, because it is important for honest taxpayers to have the confidence that when they pay their taxes, their neighbors will do the same" said Special Agent in Charge Kelly Jackson of IRS Criminal Investigation. "Mr. Buick's guilty plea again emphasizes the commitment of IRS Criminal Investigation and the U.S. Attorney's office to pursue those who defraud the tax system."

The charges against Timothy Buick were the result of an investigation conducted by IRS Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Przybylinski Finn.