



DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

News Release

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**REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON & TAX RETURN
PREPARER PLEADS GUILTY TO TAX CHARGES**

HONOLULU—On March 13, 2007, the Honolulu Grand Jury returned a 12 count indictment against Zenaida Lopez, a real estate agent and tax return preparer. In Counts I – VI, the indictment charged Ms. Lopez with willful failure to file her annual general excise tax returns for the years 1999 through 2004. In Counts VII – XII, Ms. Lopez was charged with willful attempt to evade her general excise tax for the years 1999 through 2004.

On June 13, 2007, Zenaida Lopez entered a plea of "guilty" to all 12 counts in the indictment returned by the Honolulu Grand Jury on March 13, 2007. Counts I – VI are misdemeanor violations and upon conviction, Ms. Lopez could be sentenced to a fine of not more than \$25,000 for each count, imprisonment of not more than one year for each count and probation. Counts VII – XII are class C felony violations and upon conviction, Ms. Lopez could be sentenced to a fine of not more than \$100,000 for each count, imprisonment of not more than five years for each count and probation.

Sentencing is scheduled for September 4, 2007 at 8:30am before Circuit Court Judge Michael Town.

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