



DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

KURT KAWAFUCHI, DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 587-1510
Fax: (808) 587-1560

For Immediate Release: March 20, 2008

HALEIWA REALTOR SENTENCED IN TAX CASE

HONOLULU — A Haleiwa realtor was sentenced in Honolulu District Court before the Honorable Judge Russell S. Nagata for failing to file her annual general excise returns for tax years 2000-2005. Monta R. Koch, a realtor in the Haleiwa area, failed to report over \$700,000 she received in commissions for the years in question. She pled guilty to six counts of willful failure to file her general excise returns and was granted a one-year deferral by Judge Nagata. She was also ordered to perform 600 hours of community service (100 hours per violation), pay court fees of \$330 and remain in compliance with all tax laws during the period of her deferral.

Koch is another realtor prosecuted by the State for failing to file her general excise tax returns on commission income received. She, like all the others before her, filed and paid her taxes almost immediately after the state Department of Taxation opened a criminal investigation. The rise in real estate sales generated hundreds of thousands of dollars in commissions to many real estate agents who failed to file their general excise and sometimes individual income tax returns. While these non-filers represent a small percentage of the total real estate agents who did file their returns in a timely manner, their conduct is not acceptable and the department will continue to aggressively pursue those who violate the tax laws.

For more information contact:
Stephen Hironaka
Criminal Tax Investigator
Phone: (808) 587-1795
Email: Stephen.T.Hironaka@hawaii.gov