



DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

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

For Immediate Release: July 10, 2007

LANDSCAPER & PUBLISHER OF MAGAZINE PLEADS
GUILTY FOR TAX CRIMES

HONOLULU—District Court Judge Faye Koyanagi today accepted guilty pleas from both Paul Fujimoto and Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto for misdemeanor tax violations. Paul Fujimoto pled guilty to failing to file the annual general excise tax returns for PTF Landscapes and Ellis Fujimoto Landscaping Company for the years 2000 through 2004 (5 counts) and failing to file the annual general excise tax returns for Ellis Fujimoto Landscaping LLC for 2003 and 2004 (2 counts).

Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto pled guilty to failing to file the annual general excise tax returns for Ellis Publishing Group, LLC for the years 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 (4 counts).

Pursuant to a plea agreement, Paul Fujimoto was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$66,441 for the unpaid general excise tax for the landscaping business and Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$13,687 for the publishing business.

(more)

Furthermore, Paul Fujimoto agreed to a fine/contribution to the State General Fund in the amount of \$20,000 and Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto agreed to a fine/contribution to the State General Fund in the amount of \$10,000. In addition, Paul Fujimoto agreed to perform 350 hours of community service and Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto agreed to perform 200 hours of community service.

On March 30, 2007, a 16 count criminal complaint was filed against Paul Fujimoto and Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto doing business as PTF Landscapes and Ellis Fujimoto Landscaping Company for failing to file the annual general excise tax returns for the years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004. The complaint also charged Paul Fujimoto and Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto as the responsible persons who failed to file the annual general excise tax returns for Ellis Fujimoto Landscaping LLC for the years 2003 and 2004 as well as Ellis Fujimoto Landscaping LLC for failing to file its annual general excise tax returns for 2003 and 2004.

Also on March 30, 2007, a 12-count criminal complaint was filed against Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto and Paul Fujimoto as agents of Ellis Publishing Group LLC dba Hawaii'I Woman for failing to file annual general excise tax returns for 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005. The complaint also charged Ellis Publishing Group LLC dba Hawaii'I Woman with failing to file its annual general excise tax returns for the years 2002 through 2005.

Sentencing has been scheduled for October 23, 2007 before Judge Faye Koyanagi at District Court, Honolulu, Hawaii. The remaining counts in the complaint for both Paul Fujimoto and Kristine Ellis-Fujimoto will be dismissed after sentencing.

###

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