



DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

News Release

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**LANDSCAPER SENTENCED
FOR TAX VIOLATIONS**

HONOLULU — Gareck V. Peterson was sentenced in Honolulu District Court on July 1, 2010, by the Honorable Judge Leslie Hayashi for willfully failing to file his State of Hawaii individual income and annual general excise tax returns for the years 2003 through 2007.

Peterson requested a deferral of his no contest pleas and over the State's objection, the Court granted the deferred acceptance of the no contest pleas for a period of one year. As part of the court's terms of the deferral, Peterson was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$39,824 and to make payments at the rate of \$500 per month. In addition, Peterson was assessed a fine of \$1,500 per count, for a total of \$15,000. A free standing order of restitution has been entered in this case.

Wilful failure to file return is a misdemeanor violation that carries a fine up to \$25,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for corporations, and a period of incarceration not to exceed one year or probation.

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