

DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

News Release

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For Immediate Release: September 22, 2008

FUEL COMPANY & PRESIDENT SENTENCED IN TAX CASE

HONOLULU — Fuelman, Inc., was charged with eight counts of failing to file its monthly fuel tax returns for various periods for tax years 2004 and 2005. Michael Rossman, the company's president, was also charged as the person responsible for failing to file the required fuel tax returns. Both pled guilty to all counts and were sentenced before the Honorable Judge Russell Nagata in District Court.

Each defendant was granted a deferred acceptance of guilty plea with one-year deferrals and ordered to pay a total fine of \$24,000 (\$12,000 each) and court fees. A free standing order for restitution was issued in the amount of \$20,159.25 and the corporation must also remain tax compliant as a condition of its deferral.

Failing to file a return carries a fine up to \$25,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for corporations per violation, a period of incarceration not to exceed a year or probation.

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