

Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release
Jan. 17, 2008

Video Store Operator Convicted by Jury Sentenced for State Tax Crimes

Bay Minette— An Elberta resident was sentenced on Jan. 9, 2008, by Baldwin County Circuit Judge Charles Partin following an earlier conviction of a felony state tax charge.

Stephanie Michele Chisenhall Miller, 41, of 11889 Breman Road, Elberta, Ala., was convicted by a Baldwin County jury on Oct. 10, 2007, of filing a fraudulent 1999 Alabama income tax return under penalties of perjury.

Judge Partin sentenced Miller to three years in jail, suspended, and three years' supervised probation. Miller was also ordered to pay \$5,000 in fines.

Evidence submitted at the trial showed that Miller failed to report income she received for operating a local video store in Lillian, Ala. Bank records indicate approximately \$12,000 in income was not reported on her 1999 tax return.

Filing a perjured income tax return is a violation of Section 40-29-115 (a) (1), *Code of Alabama*. It is a felony offense and is punishable by fines of not more than \$100,000 per offense, or imprisonment of not more than three years, or both.

Alabama income taxes are earmarked for the Education Trust Fund (ETF).

-30-

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