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## **Mobile Car Salesman Will Serve Jail Time for Tax Charges**

*MONTGOMERY, Feb. 3, 1999*—A Mobile County car salesman was convicted Feb. 3, 1999, following his guilty plea to two counts of a felony indictment of filing false 1993 and 1994 Alabama income tax returns under penalty of perjury, according to State Revenue Commissioner James P. Hayes Jr.

Mobile County Circuit Judge Edward B. McDermott accepted the guilty plea of Timothy Joseph Longman, 42, of Mobile, Ala., and sentenced Longman to :

- ▶ a three-year jail sentence, suspended, except for 30 days that will be served in the Mobile County jail
- ▶ three years of supervised probation, and
- ▶ restitution of \$17,500.

Longman confessed to altering information shown on his W-2 wage and tax statements so that the income tax information shown on his Alabama tax returns would result in larger state refunds.

Commenting on the conviction, Commissioner Hayes said, "Income tax revenues are a major contributor to the Alabama Education Trust Fund—the funding source for one of our state's most important responsibilities—the education of Alabama's schoolchildren. Although in some cases, discovery of noncompliance may not be immediate, **it is eventual**. The cost of tax offenses far outweighs any chance of personal gain. It is a no-win situation, and one certainly not worth it."