

Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release

Feb. 10, 2004

Montgomery Caterer Pleads Guilty to State Sales Tax Charges

Montgomery, Feb. 10, 2004—A Montgomery County business owner pleaded guilty Monday, Feb. 9, 2004, in Montgomery County District Court to charges of willful failure to pay sales taxes to the Alabama Department of Revenue.

Robert Crew Cawley, 46, owner of Culinary Arts/Academy Events located at 5312 Atlanta Hwy., Montgomery, Ala., pleaded guilty before Judge Lucie McLemore. Cawley was sentenced to one year in jail, suspended, with one year probation, conditioned upon his timely filing and payment of all taxes, penalties, and interest totaling approximately \$22,583.00 for tax periods January through December 1998. Judge McLemore also ordered Cawley to perform 100 hours of community service while serving his probation.

Cawley was an instructor associated with Trenholm State Culinary Arts during the periods involved. The sales tax violations came to light as a result of an audit by the Examiners of Public Accounts.

State sales tax revenues are earmarked for the state Education Trust Fund.

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