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News Release

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Taylorsville man guilty On tax evasion counts

A Taylorsville man was found guilty in 3rd District Court Friday of two felony counts for refusing to file state tax returns and pay state income taxes.

Richard E. Fail, 57, was found guilty of evasion to pay state income taxes, a second degree felony and failure to file state income taxes, a third degree felony.

The Utah State Tax Commission investigated the case and the Attorney General's office prosecuted.

The two-day jury trial was in held in 3rd District Court with Judge Randall N. Skanchy presiding. Sentencing is scheduled for February.

Fail, who resides and has been employed for several years in Utah has adamantly refused to file tax returns and pay income taxes between 2000 and 2005. He testified in part that he believes that income taxes are constitutional, however he believes he should not have to pay them, said Charlie Roberts, spokesperson for the Tax Commission.

Tax Commission criminal investigative officers continue to diligently seek out those who fail to pay their fair share of state taxes, said Pam Hendrickson, Tax Commission chair. "In addition to paying back taxes, those who fail to comply with the law risk severe penalties and possible jail time."

She added, "We rely on state income taxes to educate our children. It's only right that everyone pays their fair share."