



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Mike Gowrylow
(360) 534-1610

Northwest Snowplows Owner charged with Felony Theft of Sales Tax

TWISP, Washington – April 19, 2011 – The state filed felony theft charges today against the owner of Northwest Snowplows and Methow Valley Enterprises located in Twisp.

Larry Dewayne Smith, 60, is accused of failing to remit to the state at least \$13,681 in sales tax he collected from customers between January 2008 and June 2010.

The charges were filed in Okanogan County Superior Court by the Economic Crime Unit of the Attorney General's Office at the request of the Washington State Department of Revenue.

The scheme was uncovered during an audit of the business, which the Department discovered had been operating for several years without a business license in violation of state law.

Sales taxes are trust funds collected by businesses from customers on behalf of state and local government. Failing to report them is a felony subject to a maximum penalty of a \$20,000 fine and 10 years in prison.

###