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ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN: FORMER DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT FOR FAILING TO COLLECT TAXES FROM FRIENDS

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced a former employee of the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR), Henry Butler, 64, of Olympia Fields, Ill., was charged with official misconduct in his position as a program administrator for IDOR's Collections Bureau by failing to collect taxes from friends and acquaintances.

Butler was arraigned yesterday in Sangamon County on official misconduct, sales tax evasion, wire fraud and computer tampering charges. If convicted, he faces up to 15 years in prison and a fine of up to \$25,000.

Madigan alleged that between January 2010 and February 2015, Butler repeatedly abused his position as an IDOR program administrator. Most recently, Butler ordered an IDOR employee to stop collecting the delinquent taxes of a Chicago-area businessman who owed the state \$430,337.02. Butler is also accused of helping the part-owner of a Springfield liquor store, Dirty South, and its adjacent bar, Mac's Lounge, avoid her personal tax obligations to the state in 2011. Butler, who frequented the establishment, ordered an IDOR employee to create a false statement to justify the write-off of a tax debt totaling \$3,692.41. Madigan also alleges that Butler used his position to access the personal tax data of his acquaintances and the Capitol City Elks Lodge.

"The defendant abused his authority to help people he knew avoid their state tax obligations for years," Madigan said. "We will hold him accountable for these blatant offenses."

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Assistant Attorney General Jonas Harger and Associate Director Louis J. Dolce are handling the case for Madigan's Public Integrity Bureau in conjunction with the IDOR.

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