



*Scott Walker*  
Governor

*Richard G. Chandler*  
Secretary of Revenue

**For Immediate Release**

April 21, 2015

CONTACT: Stephanie Marquis, 608.266.2300

## **Former Albion Tavern Operator Sentenced for Tax Crimes**

Brian Adkins, who operated the Rustic Mill Tavern in the Town of Albion, has pled no contest in Jackson County Circuit Court to one count of theft for failing to pay sales tax, as well as one count of failing to file withholding taxes. Judge Mark Goodman has sentenced Adkins to 18 months in prison, followed by three years of extended supervision. Adkins also has to pay a total of \$32,017 in taxes owed to the State.

According to the criminal complaint, Adkins operated the Rustic Mill Tavern on Highway 54 in Albion from July 1, 2010 through June 27, 2011. Per state law, Adkins was required to pay state and county sales tax on the sales he made. He failed to do so in an amount totaling \$24,333. The complaint also alleged that Adkins failed to pay the withholding taxes that were withheld from his employees' wages totaling \$7,857.

A fire on July 9, 2011, caused heavy damage to the building. In October 2014, Adkins was found guilty of arson at a jury trial and was later sentenced to two years in state prison and 15 years extended supervision. Adkins' prison time for his tax charges will be served concurrently with his arson sentence.

The charges against Adkins were the result of an investigation by the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, U.S. Department of Justice, Wisconsin Department of Justice, State Fire Marshall's Office, and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. The prosecution was handled by the Jackson County District Attorney Gerald Fox.

- END -