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Monroe County Man Charged with Cigarette Crimes

A Monroe County man has been charged with four crimes related to unlawful cigarette sales activity.

Wayne K. Johnson, 62, of Tomah, was charged by the Monroe County District Attorney's Office on Friday, February 10, 2017 with four misdemeanor counts. Johnson is the owner of the Holy Smokes Tobacco Shop in Black River Falls.

The charges against Johnson consist of possession of unstamped cigarettes, manufacturing cigarettes without obtaining a cigarette manufacturer's permit, cigarette tax evasion, and possession/sale of cigarettes with non-compliant packaging.

The criminal complaint alleges that between November 2012 and June 2016, Johnson evaded more than \$108,000 in cigarette excise taxes by manufacturing cigarettes at his residence in Tomah, and selling those cigarettes at his store in Black River Falls, in Jackson County.

If convicted on all counts, Johnson faces up to 27 months imprisonment and \$13,000 in fines.

The charges brought against Johnson were the result of an investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's Office of Criminal Investigation, Alcohol & Tobacco Enforcement Unit. The investigation was a joint effort with the Monroe and Jackson County Sheriff's Offices along with the Black River Falls Police Department and Monroe County Joint Investigation Task Force.

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