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Dane County Man Charged with Tax Crimes

David M. Gerber, 66, of Stoughton, Wisconsin, was recently charged in Dane County Circuit Court with a misdemeanor count of filing a false Wisconsin sales/use report or return.

According to the [criminal complaint](#), Gerber purchased a 1958 Chevrolet Apache 3100 step-side pickup truck from a seller in California via an online auction website. Gerber completed a Wisconsin Title & License Plate Application, commonly referred to as Form MV-1, and reported the sale price of the truck as \$3,800. The online auction records and financial records showed the sale price of the truck was \$38,000. By understating the sale price of the vehicle, Gerber evaded \$1,710 in Wisconsin sales/use tax (5%). Additionally, Gerber did not report the 0.5% county sales/use tax on Form MV-1, thereby, evading another \$190 of tax due.

Under Wisconsin law, filing a false sales/use tax report or return is a misdemeanor. If convicted, Gerber faces a maximum penalty of not more than one year in jail and/or \$1,000 in fines. Gerber is being prosecuted by the Dane County District Attorney's Office following an investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's Office of Criminal Investigation.

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue Office of Criminal Investigation investigates individuals and businesses suspected of committing tax crimes and seeks criminal prosecution for those crimes. The Department of Revenue routinely reviews MV-1 forms and seeks to ensure voluntary compliance through civil department actions as well as criminal prosecution in more egregious cases.

To report tax fraud, go to www.revenue.wi.gov and click the "Report tax fraud" link under Quick Links.

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