

**News Release from**  
**The Honorable Sandra Doorley**  
**Monroe County District Attorney**

December 14, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR: Mary Wilmot

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Rochester, NY- On Monday, December 12, 2016, 76 year old John Kujawa was sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge John L. Demarco to 5 years probation and 6 months of electronically monitored home confinement after the defendant met the conditions of his plea agreement, which included paying \$100,000 in restitution to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

On October 21, 2016, Kujawa pled guilty to Grand Larceny in the Second Degree, four counts of Criminal Tax Fraud in the Third Degree and nine counts of Offering False Instrument for Filing. Between 12/01/2008 and 2/28/2013, John Kujawa stole \$100,364.00 in sales tax via his business, Affordable Furniture Inc., in Greece, NY and then filed false tax returns that concealed the theft.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Mark Monaghan, Chief of the Economic Crime Bureau.

“By keeping the State’s money, Affordable Furniture destroyed any level playing field with competitors. Law abiding businesses were hamstrung in their pricing, ability to expand, give raises, etc. Sales tax fraud is not a victimless crime and its offenders must be held accountable,” said Assistant District Attorney Mark Monaghan.

“Business owners who fail to make good on their obligation to remit the sales tax they collect from customers—and instead pocket it for their own personal gain—must pay the price for violating the law and the trust of their community,” said New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Acting Commissioner Nonie Manion. “We will continue to work with District Attorney Doorley and all levels of local law enforcement to root out tax evasion.”