

Department of Justice

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FORMER OWNER OF COPIES INC SENTENCED TO HOME CONFINEMENT

BUFFALO, N.Y.- Steven A. Bernstein was sentenced today to 6 months home confinement , 3 years probation, and ordered to pay restitution by U.S. District Court Judge William M. Skretny announced Acting U.S. Attorney Kathleen M. Mehlretter of the Western District of New York. On December 23, 2008 Mr. Bernstein pled guilty to one count of Embezzlement from an Employee Benefit Plan.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert G. Trusiak stated Bernstein pled guilty after the U.S. Department of Labor investigation revealed that during 2001-2003, Bernstein was the President of Copies Inc. and a Trustee of the Copies Inc. 401(k) Plan. During this period, Bernstein converted \$27,246.57 of employee 401(k) Plan contributions to his own use or the use of his company. Copies Inc. was a copier fax company located in Buffalo, N.Y. which struggled financially during the last years of operation and eventually closed down in the spring of 2004. . Judge Skretny ordered Bernstein to pay \$20,469.79 in restitution which represents the amount owed to the 401(k) participants.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration, Boston, MA.