



United States Department of Justice

Offices of the United States Attorneys

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
WESTERN DISTRICT *of* MICHIGAN

U.S. Attorneys » Western District of Michigan » News

Department of Justice

SHARE

U.S. Attorney's Office

Western District of Michigan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mendon, Michigan Man Sentenced To 13 Months In Prison For Crop Insurance Fraud

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN - U.S. Attorney Andrew Birge announced today that Douglas Edward Diekman, 55, of Mendon, Michigan, was sentenced to 13 months in federal prison for committing crop insurance fraud. He was also ordered to serve two years of supervised release and pay \$488,432.86 in restitution. U.S. District Judge Paul Maloney imposed the sentence.

Diekman pled guilty to conspiring with Michael Stamp of Stamp Farms to defraud the federal crop insurance program. Diekman admitted that he illegally obtained crop insurance for approximately 1,000 acres of farmland he rented to Stamp Farms. Diekman did not farm the land and had no ownership interest in the crops. Nevertheless, he falsely certified that he had a 100% ownership interest in the crops and falsely certified that he had crop losses. When Stamp Farms declared bankruptcy and was unable to pay rent for the farmland, Diekman kept a crop insurance indemnity payment to which he was not entitled.

U.S. Attorney Birge said, "This office will continue to vigorously prosecute people like Mr. Diekman who defraud taxpayer-funded programs such as the federal crop insurance program."

Manny Muriel, Special Agent in Charge of the Detroit's IRS Criminal Investigation, stated, "IRS Special Agents and our Federal Law Enforcement partners will continue to work tirelessly to bring to justice those who attempt to defraud programs that are backed by taxpayer funds. We will not tolerate those cheating the system in efforts to deepen their own pockets at everyone else's expense."

The case was investigated by the United States Department of Agriculture, Office



**HEROIN AND OPIOID
AWARENESS**
Prevention • Enforcement • Treatment

Heroin and Opioid
Awareness

[LEARN MORE](#)



Project Safe
Neighborhoods

[LEARN MORE](#)

VWA
VICTIM
WITNESS
ASSISTANCE

of Inspector General, with assistance from the Risk Management Agency’s Compliance Investigators, and the Internal Revenue Service–Criminal Investigation Division. Clay Stiffler handled the prosecution.

END

Component(s):

USAO - Michigan, Western

Updated December 20, 2018

Making sure that victims of federal crimes are treated with compassion, fairness and respect.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Project Safe Childhood

[LEARN MORE](#)



Community Outreach

Giving Back to the Community through a variety of venues & initiatives.

[LEARN MORE](#)

HOME ABOUT NEWS MEET THE U.S. ATTORNEY DIVISIONS PROGRAMS JOBS CONTACT US

About the District

About the History

About Former United States Attorneys

Year in Review

MEET THE U.S. ATTORNEY

Administrative Division

Appellate Division

Civil Division

Criminal Division

PROGRAMS

Affirmative Civil Enforcement

Asset Forfeiture and Collections

Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council

Community Outreach

ID Theft

Health Care Fraud

Heroin and Opioid Awareness

Human Trafficking

Organized Crime and

JOBS

Diversity and Inclusion

Current USAO Jobs

Law Student Interns

Other Government Jobs

CONTACT US

Civil Rights Hotline

Telephone Mail

Webmaster

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Accessibility Justice.gov

FOIA USA.gov

Privacy Policy

Legal Policies & Disclaimers

Drug
Enforcement
Task Force
(OCDEF)
Project Safe
Childhood
Project Safe
Neighborhoods
Victim
Witness
Assistance