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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**DUMBO Restaurant Owner Sentenced To 3 1/3 to 10 Years In Prison  
For Stealing \$200,000 In Sales Tax, Evading \$1.2 Million**

Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson today announced that the owner of reBar, a now-shuttered restaurant located in DUMBO, has been sentenced to 3 1/3 to 10 years in prison after pleading guilty last month to grand larceny and criminal tax fraud in connection with stealing approximately \$200,000 in sales tax that he collected between 2009 and 2012, but failed to remit to the state. He also admitted failing to collect approximately \$1.2 million in sales tax during the same period.

District Attorney Thompson said, “Today’s sentence sends a clear message that we will prosecute tax cheats and put them in prison for stealing money from the people of New York – money that we could use to hire more police officers and improve our schools and roadways.”

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Jason Stevens, 41, of 68 Jay Street, in Brooklyn. Both Stevens and his corporation, Fulton Ferry Market, Inc., pleaded guilty last month to one count of second-degree grand larceny and four counts of criminal tax fraud before Acting Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Matthew A. Sciarrino, Jr., who today sentenced the defendant to 3 1/3 to 10 years in prison.

The District Attorney said that, according to the investigation, between 2009 and 2012, the defendants – Stevens and Fulton Ferry Market – operated reBar, a restaurant located at 147 Front Street, in DUMBO, Brooklyn, and collected approximately \$200,000 in sales tax from customers that they failed to remit to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. They also evaded \$1.2 million in sales tax by failing to collect it for goods and services rendered.

The case was investigated by detectives assigned to the Kings County District Attorney’s Detective Squad and by forensic auditors assigned to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

The District Attorney thanked Michelle Demeri, an attorney with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance’s Criminal Investigations Team, for her contribution to this case.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Gregory P. Mitchel, Chief of the District Attorney’s Money Laundering Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney Toni C. Lichstein, under the supervision of William E. Schaeffer, Chief of the District Attorney’s Investigations Bureau.

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