



# Department of Justice

## Office of the United States Attorney Western District of Wisconsin

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### **DALBEC BROTHERS SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ARSON**

Madison, Wis. - Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Tony Dalbec, 46, and Shawn Dalbec, 45, both of Maple, Wis., were sentenced today by Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb for their roles in a conspiracy to commit arson. Shawn Dalbec was sentenced to eighteen months in prison, while Tony Dalbec was sentenced to twelve months in prison. Both men pleaded guilty to this charge on August 6, 2009.

The evidence showed that in July 2006, Shawn Dalbec was approached by the owner of the Somewhere Else Bar located in South Range, Wis., and the owner offered Dalbec a construction contract worth \$8000 if Dalbec would burn down the bar. Dalbec then involved his brother, Tony Dalbec, and the two of them agreed to burn down the bar in exchange for the contract.

In the early morning hours of July 11, 2006, Tony Dalbec drove his brother Shawn to the Somewhere Else Bar with the intent that Shawn would enter the bar and start a fire. Shawn Dalbec started a small fire in the bar, then immediately put the fire out. The Dalbecs notified the owner of the bar that they had not burned it down and would not burn it down, and they encouraged the owner to try to make a go of the place.

The next day, the Somewhere Else Bar was burned to the ground. The Dalbecs had no known involvement in the actual destruction of the Somewhere Else Bar. In sentencing the Dalbecs, Judge Crabb recognized that they put the fire out before they caused any real damage and made sure that no one was in the bar or second-floor apartment at the time of the fire.

The charges against the Dalbecs were the result of a continuing investigation conducted by the Douglas County Sheriff's Department, Wisconsin Department of

Justice - Division of Criminal Investigation, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Przybylinski Finn.

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