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NEWS RELEASE

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LAUTENSCHLAGER ANNOUNCES ONEIDA COUNTY MAN TO PAY \$3,609 IN WATER PROTECTION CASE

MADISON - Attorney General Peg Lautenschlager announced today that her office has filed and settled a navigable water protection enforcement lawsuit against an Oneida County property owner for violations of state boathouse laws on property abutting Lake Tomahawk, a natural navigable lake.

Lautenschlager said that David L. Doolittle has agreed to pay \$3,609 in forfeitures, penalties and costs for violating state laws that regulate the construction and repair of boathouses below the ordinary high-water mark of navigable lakes, known as "wet" boathouses.

According to the Department of Justice's complaint, filed in Oneida County, Doolittle altered and lengthened a 44-foot long boathouse in the 1990s, to its current length of 78 feet. As part of the settlement, Doolittle has agreed to bring that boathouse back to its original 44-foot length, and to take down a second, 58-foot long, wet boathouse nearby. In addition, Doolittle will complete \$2,900 worth of shoreline restoration work over the next 2 years.

In announcing the settlement, Attorney General Lautenschlager stressed the importance of protecting our lakes from this type of activity in navigable waters.

"State restrictions on wet boathouses help minimize environmental damage in the near shore areas of our lakes, and help keep our lakes open for the use and enjoyment of all Wisconsin citizens," Lautenschlager said. "I am pleased that Mr. Doolittle has agreed to bring his wet boathouses into compliance and to restore and protect the lakeshore area."

The Department of Justice filed the lawsuit at the request of the Department of Natural Resources. Assistant Attorney General JoAnne F. Kloppenburg represented the state.

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