Fraudulent Unemployment Benefits

JUNEAU-A school bus driver pleaded guilty in Fairbanks District Court to seven counts of fraudulently obtaining unemployment insurance benefits, the State Department of Labor reported.

Judge Arthur L. Robson, Jr. sentenced Jeff Flenaugh to 60 days in jail, with 55 days suspended and ordered him to make full restitution of \$186 within 60 days. The trial was held December 18. According to the Department, Flenaugh failed to report that he worked for seven weeks while continuing to file claims for unemployment insurance benefits.

The fraud was uncovered by an employee of the Fairbanks Manpower Center who had observed Flenaugh driving a school bus on the same morning that he came to the center and filed a claim for unemployment insurance benefits.