

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff

MEMORANDUM

v.

97-C-0757-C

DUANE F. BOWMAN,

Defendant.

Defendant Duane F. Bowman has written to the clerk of court, complaining that the clerk has failed to answer defendant's letter of January 30, 2003. In this letter, defendant had asked the clerk to persuade plaintiff's counsel to pursue actions against certain entities for their failure to comply with writs of continuing garnishment that the government had filed against them. As I understand defendant's letters, he believes that some of these entities erred in releasing funds to him instead of holding them for the government, as required under the writs. Defendant seems to think that if the government would take action against the entities, it could collect penalties from them sufficient to satisfy its

judgment against defendant.

It is not the obligation of the clerk of court either to advise the government's lawyer how to collect a judgment or to take action on his own to enforce a writ. If defendant believes that an action is warranted, it is up to him to take the necessary steps to prosecute it. I will note, however, that I am unaware of any provision of the law that would entitle defendant to offset contempt penalties from other entities against his own obligation to the government for unpaid taxes.

It is unnecessary for the clerk to respond to defendant's letter of February 13, 2003 or his earlier letter of January 30, 2003.

Entered this 19th day of February, 2003.

BY THE COURT:

BARBARA B. CRABB
District Judge