



Jewish worshippers routinely pay big bucks to attend religious services for the High Holy Days — but this one takes the cake.

Steve Croman, the so-called “Bernie Madoff of landlords” handed over a \$3 million check in Manhattan Supreme Court Tuesday and a judge agreed to put off his surrender to jail until after the holidays.

The move lets Croman celebrate Rosh Hoshanah and Yom Kippur at home, not behind bars, **after he copped to charges of grand larceny, tax fraud and filing a false instrument charges.**

Judge Jill Konvisor agreed to Croman attorney Benjamin Brafman’s request but warned his stone-faced client to return to court on Oct. 3, when he’ll be sent to a year in jail.

The whopping payment is the first installment in a \$5,000,000 settlement he agreed to fork over when he pleaded guilty in June.

**Croman faced up to 25 years in prison on charges of harassing rent-stabilized tenants** so he could lease their units at market rates and inflating his rental receipts in order to fraudulently secure \$45 million in bank loans.

He was dubbed the “Bernie Madoff of landlords” by Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, after an investigation by the AG’s office found he’d falsely claimed rent-stabilized units in his properties were market rate.

FILED UNDER **LANDLORD-TENANT DISPUTES, RENT STABILIZATION, STEVEN CROMAN**

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