

KY. MAN CHARGED WITH INCOME TAX EVASION

Phillip R. Carr, of Bowling Green, Ky., has been indicted on charges of income tax evasion. According to the indictment, Carr and his spouse filed federal income tax returns with the IRS for tax years 2004, 2005 and 2006 that claimed they had no taxable income. The indictment charges that their joint taxable income for 2004, 2005 and 2006 was actually \$258,354.67, \$239,205.31, and \$355,827.34, respectively. If convicted, Carr faces up to five years in prison.

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I'd Like To Hear From YOU!

Whether you'd like to avoid the IRS, contact the IRS, settle with the IRS or just want to refer a friend, relative or client, I'd love to hear from you. I would be happy to provide you or that special person you refer a free no-obligation confidential consultation to explain every option available to solve IRS problems.

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Casey Anthony Owes IRS \$68,000

Accused of killing her daughter Caylee, Casey Anthony has been in the national spotlight since 2008.

Now, she's also in the Internal Revenue Service's spotlight. The IRS has filed a \$68,520.41 tax lien against Anthony in Kississmee, Fla.

IRS QUESTION CORNER

QUESTION: My friends warn me about tax scams and unscrupulous people who claim they can eliminate tax debt. That's why I worry when I read about the Offer in Compromise. Is this a scam too?

ANSWER: The simple answer: No! more people every day with the same problem you have.

But it sounds like you have wise friends. It's true that scams artists operate in the debt-elimination business – whether they're claiming to be able to eliminate tax debt or credit card debt. I'm certainly not a scam artist, and indeed, my colleagues who also negotiate Offers in Compromise with the IRS aren't either.

The Offer in Compromise is a legitimate option for taxpayers who, for whatever reason, are unable to pay their tax debt. While you have to meet certain criteria – you have to be able to show, for example, that you are financially incapable of paying the tax debt, even over time — the Offer in Compromise allows you to settle your tax debt once and for all.

So why does the IRS offer this? Because the Offer in Compromise simply makes business sense. When confronting taxpayers who are unable to pay their debts, the IRS has two options: chase them down indefinitely for the full amount or negotiate a settlement. It turns out that negotiating a settlement results in greater tax revenue for the IRS, and so when a taxpayer qualifies for the Offer in Compromise, the IRS gives it serious consideration. The Offer in Compromise can reduce your tax debt by a significant amount.

Keep in mind, too, that the Offer in Compromise is not your only option. If you do not qualify for the Offer in Compromise, you may want to consider the Installment Agreement, which will allow you to pay your tax debt over time by making monthly installment payments toward your debt.

I handle tax problems every day, because I'm an IRS problem solver. For a free, no-risk consultation, please call my office at 305-682-1118 or toll free at 1-800-219-1118.

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"I'd like that in small, unmarked bills, but make sure you take out taxes and social security."

IT'S SUMMER, BUT THE IRS IS NOT TAKING A VACATION

This is the time of year that many people take time off to spend with family and friends. If you have an IRS problem and have not heard from them in a while, you may think the IRS is taking a break from prosecuting your case. Rest assured they are not lounging by the pool sipping an exotic drink, having forgotten about you and your outstanding issue. The IRS never takes a vacation. Chances are good that they just have not gotten to you yet.

The IRS does not "take a break" during the summertime. With the large deficit, Congress is giving the IRS one command: COLLECT. Since the beginning of the year, we have seen an increase in IRS activity. There have been more liens, levies, and audits than any time in recent memory.

When you have a tax issue hanging over your head you can never relax. Do not ignore the IRS letters and telephone calls. If you do, you will wake up one hot summer morning and find that the IRS has taken your bank account. Even worse, you may go to work and find that they are taking your paycheck this week, next week, and every week until they get what you owe them.

Remember: the one sure thing about IRS problems is that they do not go away. They do not take a break and they do not rest. You need someone who will work with you to help manage your issue with them. The earlier you get help, the sooner you can take a real vacation from your troubles. Call today for a free consultation at 305-682-1118.

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FLA. MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR FAILING TO PAY EMPLOYEE TAXES AND PERSONAL TAXES

Stuart M. Register, 44, of Brandon, Fla., was sentenced to 27 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to 13 counts of failure to pay federal income tax and four counts of filing false income tax returns.

According to court records, from 2003 to 2007, Register owned and operated Criminal Research Bureau Inc., in Brandon, Fla. He employed individuals and had a duty to withhold and pay over federal employment taxes from those employees to the IRS.

From the first quarter of 2003 to the fourth quarter of 2007, Register withheld federal employment taxes from his employees totaling \$316,220.22, but failed to pay it over to the IRS.

In addition, for the tax years 2003 to 2006, Register failed to pay personal income tax, filed false individual income tax returns with the IRS, and collected federal income tax refunds to which he was not entitled.

Register's failure to pay taxes he withheld from his employees, together with his filing of false income tax returns resulting in undue refunds, resulted in a total tax loss to the IRS of \$345,612.87. The case was investigated by the IRS Criminal Investigation Division.

Restaurant Manager Guilty in Tax Scheme

The manager of a Warrensburg, Mo., restaurant has pleaded guilty to a role in a conspiracy to file false tax returns.

Javier Posada, 43, of Warrensburg, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Mexico, admitted that he participated in a conspiracy to underreport income received at several El Vaquero restaurants in Missouri from June 2002 to August 2008.

Conspirators removed cash from the register or directed others to remove cash from the register, and the restaurants failed to report the receipt of that cash for tax purposes. They also created fraudulent sales ledgers and destroyed guest tickets.

Under the terms of the plea agreement, Posada must pay \$382,296 in restitution to the IRS. He also faces up to five years in prison.

Fla. Ophthalmologist Pleads Guilty to Filing False Tax Return

An ophthalmologist practicing in Vero Beach, Fla., has pleaded guilty to filing a false tax return.

According to court statements, David J. O'Brien was employed by and a shareholder at the Florida Eye Institute. According to statements made in court, the defendant had agreed to have various personal expenses paid by FEI prior to any calculation of his income, thereby reducing his reported taxable income.

O'Brien underreported approximately \$54,000 of income for 2005. In a plea agreement, O'Brien agreed that approximately \$58,000 is due, excluding interest and penalties, for tax years 2004, 2005 and 2006.

He faces up to three years in prison.

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TWO ALA. WOMEN SENTENCED IN REFUND CLAIMS SCHEME THAT NETTED \$1.4 MILLION

Two Alabama women have been sentenced for their role in a conspiracy to file false claims for tax refunds.

Betty Washington, of Montgomery County, Ala., was sentenced today to 21 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$1.4 million. Wendy Delbridge, also of Montgomery County, was sentenced to five days in jail and six months of home confinement for her role in the same conspiracy and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$45,219. Both women pleaded guilty.

According to court records, from October 2009 to September 2010, Washington conspired with others to fraudulently obtain tax refunds. The conspiracy involved using stolen identities to file false income tax returns claiming refunds. At the behest of a co-conspirator, Washington opened bank accounts.

More than 300 false refunds were deposited into these bank accounts, totaling more than \$1.4 million in fraudulent refunds.

Delbridge played a similar role. She also set up bank accounts to receive fraudulent refunds. From February 2010 to June 2010, the bank accounts received more \$50,000 in false tax refunds.

Prosecutor Gets Prison for Evasion

A former Lafayette Parish Assistant District Attorney was sentenced to 18 months in prison and three years of supervised release for tax evasion. He was also ordered to pay \$179,661.59 in restitution to the Internal Revenue Service.

According to court testimony, Joseph Floyd Johnson, 50, of Lafayette, La., failed to file his federal income tax return and evaded the payment of federal income taxes for the year 2003 after receiving income from his salary at the District Attorney's Office and his private law practice, totaling \$259,371.00.

As a result, Johnson did not pay approximately \$84,581 in federal income tax for the calendar year 2003. In order to avoid the payment of taxes, interest and penalties due on assets and income, Johnson purchased land and placed it in a nominee's name, had the nominee donate the property to his brother, and then had the brother get a loan so that he could build a house on the land.

He falsely advised federal agents that his brother owned the home when in fact he owned the land and the home. Johnson failed to maintain an operating account for his private practice, and he deposited all proceeds from the law practice into a client trust account. In addition, Johnson knowingly failed to file income tax returns for the years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

'Celebrity Apprentice' Star Owes \$50k

One of the stars of Celebrity Apprentice owes the Internal Revenue Service \$50,000 in back taxes.

Actress Marlee Matlin, 45, told People magazine that she is negotiating a payment arrangement with the IRS. She and her husband, a Burbank, Calif., police officer, are also trying to sell their five-bedroom home in Pasadena.

Matlin won an Academy Award for her performance in Children of a Lesser God. She also had appearances on such television shows as Seinfeld, Picket Fences and Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.

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