

Tax Resolution Times

“Read About Taxpayers with IRS Problems & Find Out How to Solve Them”



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What the Puck Was She Thinking?

Jennifer Durham, an employee of the Rapid City Rush, a professional hockey team in South Dakota, pleaded guilty to wire fraud and tax evasion for embezzling \$700,000 from the organization.

While employed as the team's office manager between 2010 and 2019, Durham falsified entries into accounting records to make it appear that the money she was stealing was spent on legitimate business expenses.

Durham paid herself \$87,000 in mileage reimbursement and sales commissions, transferred nearly \$285,000 from the team's bank account to pay her American Express bill and transferred another \$181,000 to her personal bank account. Durham also admitted to taking \$214,971 in cash receipts to use for personal expenses and made payments totaling \$7,712 to cover her family's cell phone bill. She did not report the additional income to the IRS, causing a tax loss of \$186,277 to the federal government.

The investigation began when new team owners discovered, “Inconsistencies and irregularities with regard to some bookkeeping handled by a single former employee.”

As part of the plea agreement, Durham must pay restitution to the team totaling \$700,000 and the IRS \$186,277. She faces up to 45 years in prison.

Ruby's in the Red

Illinois resident Ruby Toosevich pleaded guilty to bank fraud for defrauding the medical practice where she worked by using the company's bank account to pay her personal expenses. Toosevich created fake invoices disguised as legitimate business expenses in order to get checks from her employer. She used the checks to pay, or attempt to pay, for her federal taxes, a mortgage, home repairs and remodeling, private school tuition, jewelry, a luxury car lease, and other expenses.

In a 12-month period she caused the company losses of more than \$300,000. She has been ordered to pay \$329,986.54 in restitution and was sentenced to 27 months in prison.

George
Washington
never told a lie,
but then he never
had to file a
Form 1040

Pretend Millionaire Gets Real Refund and Real Jail Time

Mark Goolsby pleaded guilty in Florida to filing a false tax return.

For the 2014 tax year Goolsby falsely claimed that he had earned over a million dollars in 1099-MISC income and had paid more than \$800,000 in federal withholding taxes. The IRS processed the return and issued Goolsby a refund check for over \$400,000.

Not long after sending the check the IRS realized their mistake and began collection proceedings to get the money back. Goolsby refused to return the money and took great lengths to hide the funds from the IRS. He opened multiple bank accounts, purchased a car in someone else's name, withdrew large amounts of cash and continued to live a lavish lifestyle.

Goolsby was sentenced to 24 months in prison and ordered to pay \$420,288 in restitution to the IRS.

Not Such A Minor Offense

New Yorker Mark Wolanyk pleaded guilty to tax evasion for a scheme that included his minor son.

Wolanyk opened a bank account in his son's name in 2010, and listed himself as the custodian of the account. During the next three years Wolanyk deposited more than \$250,000 in the account, the majority of the funds coming from his business. During roughly the same time period, Wolanyk withdrew a similar amount from the account.

In 2011, while the IRS was attempting to collect taxes owed by Wolanyk, he submitted a Collection Information Statement for Wage Earner and Self-Employed individuals and did not list the account held in his son's name.

Wolanyk filed a false tax return in 2014 claiming a loss in income. Later that year he amended his return and claimed \$77,477 in gross income and \$56,491 in total income. Neither return reported \$60,000 he had deposited in his son's account from a real estate transaction that same year.

Wolanyk was sentenced to 12 months of home confinement, three years of supervised release and ordered to pay \$243,387 in restitution to the IRS.

Thank you!

Thanks to Nikki Richmond with Charles Rutenberg Realty for her referrals.

Thanks to YOU, the word is spreading. Thanks to my clients and friends who graciously referred me to their friends, clients and relatives last month! I enjoy building my business based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you.

I just couldn't do it without you!

All Tuckered Out From Defrauding 7 Million People Out of 8 Million Dollars

Joel Tucker, from Kansas City, Missouri, ran into trouble with the IRS after he was caught selling false debt portfolios.

In 2009 Tucker founded eData Solutions, which collected loan application information, known as leads, that he sold to approximately 70 payday lender clients. In 2012 Tucker sold the company to the Wyandotte Indian tribe but kept a file of 7.8 million leads he had acquired. These leads included detailed customer information including: names, addresses, bank accounts, social security numbers and dates of birth. Tucker used this information to create false debt portfolios he then sold to third party debt collectors.

Tucker sold debts he didn't own, were not true debts, had already been sold to other buyers and contained false lenders, loan dates, loan amounts and payment status.

Tucker did not file tax returns from 2014 to 2016, claiming he had no income and was living on borrowed money from his mother. In reality he used nominee bank accounts to conceal millions of dollars in income and assets and spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on cars, chartered jets, travel, entertainment, and a personal home.

Under his plea agreement Tucker must pay \$8,057,079 in restitution to the IRS and faces up to 20 years in federal prison without parole.

IRS Unmasks Anonymous Tax Filer

Kristi Finney pleaded guilty to tax fraud for filing false tax returns.

From 2013 to 2018 Finney offered tax services from her home and charged a rate of \$200 per return. She falsified employment, income and expense information on the returns. She also claimed large financial losses for businesses that did not exist, which resulted in larger tax refunds for her clients.

Finney would then divert portions of the refunds to herself by placing the refunds on prepaid debit cards.

Finney hid her involvement by claiming the returns were prepared by her clients, but the IRS linked 147 suspicious tax returns to her and was able to identify her as the filer through Internet protocol addresses, email addresses associated with the electronic returns and through witness interviews.

She has been ordered to pay restitution of \$359,733 to the IRS and sentenced to 33 months in federal prison.

Are You My Next Client of the Month?

Every month I choose a very special *Client of the Month*. It's my way of acknowledging good friends and saying "thanks!" to those who support me and my business with referrals, word of mouth and repeat business.

This month's Client of the Month is Mark The IRS claimed that Mark owed \$1.2 million dollars in tax. However, due to circumstances beyond Mark's control, that amount was over inflated. Because of a lack of records, we had no way to prove our client's case. We turned to another tool in our toolbelt, the Offer In Compromise" program. This program allows a taxpayer, who can prove they are unable to pay their tax within the statute of limitations, to settle the debt for less than what is owed. This tool worked remarkably well for Mark as we settled his \$1,231,000 debt for \$10.

You might be my next *Client of the Month* too! Watch for your name here in an upcoming month.

Did You Know?

Beatles guitarist George Harrison wrote the song Taxman in 1966 when the band's earnings put them in a 95% tax bracket in the United Kingdom. This left the group with a nickel for every dollar they earned.

Thank you for the Kind Words...

Alan says "Very pleasant. Very knowledgeable. Did not charge for 15 minutes of advice (very unusual). Complicated matters explained simply."

I'd Like to Hear From You!

If you have an IRS issue, or just want to refer a friend, relative or client, we'd love to hear from you. We can provide a no-obligation confidential consultation to help you solve your IRS problems.

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Enter Our Trivia Contest for a Chance to Win a \$250 Transferrable Gift Certificate!

Take the Trivia Challenge to win!

Each month, I'll give you a new trivia question. The first **THREE** people who call my office with the correct answer win a free \$250 reduction on any **new IRS Resolution service** I provide. Your prize is also transferrable, so use it for yourself, or give it to a family member or friend. Take your best guess and call me at 386-320-5347

This month's question is....

Discovery Channel's Shark Week airs its 20th season this month. The illegal shark fin trade includes fins from approximately how many sharks each year?

- a) 10 million c) 500,000
b) 73 million d) 1 million

Your IRS Questions Answered Here...

Question: *I own a small business and we had to shut down due to the Pandemic and in order to keep afloat, I did not send the IRS my employee's withholding (941) taxes for a few quarters. How much trouble am I in?*

Answer: Owing 941 payroll taxes is very different from owing personal income taxes. Not only can the IRS padlock the doors to your business, they can come after you personally, levy your bank accounts, confiscate your receivables and seize your property. Scariest still is that it could turn into a criminal matter. Why? Because the money has already been deducted from your employee's payroll checks; so **it's not your money to begin with!** The IRS will look at it as if you stole their money. Payroll tax delinquency is the IRS's number one enforcement priority.

You need to get help from an experienced professional who deals with the IRS every day. The IRS and SBA have implemented special programs for business owners who have fallen behind on their payroll tax obligations. We can assess your situation and figure out the best way to protect you and will take over all dealings with the IRS so you don't have to. Don't let them take everything you've worked so hard for; call us today!

We at Fix-it Accounting inc. are experts in tax resolution and help taxpayers with their IRS Problems every day. Call us today at 386-320-5347 for a FREE confidential consultation. We can put a stop to the IRS's aggressive enforcement tactics, but you have to take that first step and call us!