



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FORMER AUSTIN POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED TO PRISON ON FEDERAL TAX CHARGE

United States Attorney Robert Pitman announced that in Austin this morning, Randall Keith Ballard was sentenced to one year in federal prison after pleading guilty in March to one count of making and submitting a false income tax return.

By pleading guilty, the former Austin Police officer admitted that on his 2010 Federal Income Tax Return, he failed to declare approximately \$114,000 in income generated from an off-duty private security job. According to an Information filed in this case, Ballard made a false declaration on his return that his total income was \$40,562.00 when in fact, he knew it to be approximately \$155,289.00. Information presented in open court at the time of his guilty plea revealed that Ballard admitted that he did not pay taxes on any of this extra income nor did he work all of the hours he was paid for to provide private security.

“No one is above the law, especially current and Former Law Enforcement Officers,” said IRS-Criminal Investigation Special Agent in Charge Steve McCollough. McCollough further stated, “The prosecution of individuals who intentionally conceal income and evade taxes is a vital element in maintaining public confidence in our tax system. It is important to note that all income, regardless of its source is taxable and must be reported, including, as in this case, side jobs, extra jobs, cash jobs and part time work.”

This case was investigated by special agents with the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation, the Texas Attorney General's Office and the Austin Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Gregg N. Sofer is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

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