



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SCOTTSDALE BUSINESSMAN SENTENCED TO 12 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR FAILURE TO FILE INCOME TAX RETURN

PHOENIX – A Scottsdale businessman has been sentenced to serve 12 months in federal prison for failure to file a federal income tax return. Mario Alexander Pino, 38, a self-employed consultant, was indicted by a federal grand jury in August 2008 and entered a plea of guilty in March 2009 to the crime of Willful Failure to File his 2003 Federal Income Tax Return. The 12-month term imposed by Magistrate Judge Anderson is the maximum sentence allowed for the offense. Pino was also ordered to serve one year of supervised release upon leaving prison.

Pino admitted to United States Magistrate Judge Lawrence O. Anderson that a reasonable estimate of his 2003 income was \$602,933 and that his federal income tax liability on that income was approximately \$192,244. In addition, Pino admitted as part of his guilty plea that he purposefully did not file his 2003 return by April 15, 2004 and that he knew that he had an obligation to do so. Despite not filing his return, Pino said that he used an unfiled 2003 return as supporting proof of his income in making applications for automobile and mortgage loans in 2004 and 2005.

The investigation was conducted by agents of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division. The prosecution was handled by Frank T. Galati, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-08-0895 PHX-LOA
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