



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**Terrence Berg  
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Eastern District of Michigan**

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**For Immediate Release:**

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**June 17, 2009**

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**Event: Sentenced**

**Defendant: Tracy Johnson**

**DETROIT WOMAN GOES TO JAIL FOR HER ROLE IN A CONSPIRACY TO  
DEFRAUD THE IRS**

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Tracy Johnson, of Detroit, was sentenced on June 16, 2009, to 18 months imprisonment, followed by two years of supervised release, announced United States Attorney Terrence Berg. This sentenced was handed down by United States District Court Judge John Corbett O'Meara as a result of her guilty plea to conspiracy to defraud the Internal Revenue Service.

Mr. Berg was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Maurice Aouate, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division.

According to court records, Johnson, along with Charles Bryson, of Detroit, conspired to defraud the IRS by providing false W-2s to several taxpayers to be used in the preparation of their federal income tax returns. They also provided transportation to legitimate tax preparation offices where returns were prepared using these false W-2s. They made arrangements for the taxpayers to pick up their refund checks and cash them out, while keeping a substantial portion

of the refunds for themselves. This conspiracy caused over \$123,000 in false refund claims to be submitted to the IRS.

Bryson was previously sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for his role in this conspiracy.

United States Attorney Terrence Berg stated, "Helping others to prepare fraudulent tax returns is a serious violation that cheats the government and harms the taxpayer as well. Such conduct will be pursued vigorously."

Special Agent in Charge Maurice Aouate, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division said, "No one is entitled to an undeserved windfall and refunds should only be issued to taxpayers who are entitled to them. At the IRS, protecting taxpayer money is a matter we take extremely seriously."

United States Attorney Berg thanked the special agents of IRS Criminal Investigation Division. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Diane L. Marion.