

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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South Orange Woman Admits Filing False Tax Returns,
Receiving Nearly \$200,000 in Fraudulent Refunds

(More)

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NEWARK – A South Orange woman pleaded guilty yesterday to a conspiracy to obtain tax refunds from the Internal Revenue Service based on fraudulent income tax returns, admitting that for two years she and her co-conspirators illegally obtained nearly \$200,000 in tax refunds, Acting U.S. Attorney Ralph J. Marra, Jr. announced.

Cassandre Moinville, 34, of South Orange, pleaded guilty to a one-count Indictment charging conspiracy to defraud the federal government, according to Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott B. McBride. Following the guilty plea, U.S. District Judge Susan D. Wigenton set sentencing for March 19.

The defendant faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine on the sole count of the Indictment, charging conspiracy to defraud the IRS. In addition, Moinville must pay restitution to any victims of her offense.

Moinville admitted that, during a two-year period, she and her co-defendants, Lunic Adisson, Robert Desrosiers, and Yves Desir, Jr., agreed to obtain tax refunds from the IRS by fraud.

According to Moinville, she created fraudulent W-2 forms with false information concerning employers, wages, and tax withholdings. Moinville admitted that she recruited others and used their names and social security numbers on those fraudulent W-2 forms. Moinville then obtained false identification, such as driver's licenses, in the names of those individuals identified on the fraudulent W-2 forms, and she or her co-conspirators brought those forms and the fake identification to commercial tax preparers, such as H&R Block. Moinville admitted that, using the fraudulent W-2 forms and false identification, she and her co-conspirators caused the tax preparers to file fraudulent federal tax returns claiming tax refunds, and then obtained refund anticipation loans based on the false claims for tax refunds.

Moinville was released on a \$200,000 unsecured bond on Oct. 12, 2006 in the Southern District of Florida, where she was arrested.

Moinville currently has three co-defendants: Adisson, Desrosiers, and Desir. Adisson, 38, of Irvington, pleaded guilty on Nov. 12, 2008 before Judge Wigenton to the same one-count Indictment charging Moinville with the conspiracy to obtain tax refunds by fraud. Adisson was released on a \$200,000 unsecured bond on Oct. 11, 2006 and is scheduled to be sentenced on February 18, 2009.

Desrosiers, 33, of Irvington, pleaded guilty on Nov. 19, 2008 before Judge Wigenton to the same Indictment charging conspiracy to defraud the IRS. Desrosiers was released on a \$200,000 unsecured bond on Oct. 11, 2006, and is scheduled to be sentenced on Feb. 24.

Desir, 32, of Perth Amboy, was released pending trial on a \$200,000 unsecured bond on Oct.11, 2006. His trial is scheduled for January 2009.

Under an Information, a defendant waives the right to have his case presented to a grand jury and, instead, pleads guilty to charges presented by the Government.

In determining an actual sentence, Judge Wigenton will consult the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The Judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Acting U.S. Attorney Marra credited Special Agents of the IRS Criminal Investigation Division, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge William P. Offord, and Special Agents from the Office of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Martin J. Kenney, for the successful investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott B. McBride.

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Defense Counsel:
Thomas R. Ashley, Newark, NJ