



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales*  
*District of New Mexico*

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

**February 29, 2012**

**MORIARTY TAX PREPARER SENTENCED TO PRISON**  
**FOR FAILING TO FILE FEDERAL TAX RETURNS**

ALBUQUERQUE – This morning, a U.S. District Judge sentenced **Steven Massoth**, 55, a self-employed tax return preparer who resides in Moriarty, N.M., to three months in prison and six months of home confinement for his willful failure to file federal tax returns conviction. The Judge also ordered Massoth to pay a \$1,000 fine. Massoth is required to surrender to a federal correctional facility to be designated by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons within 60 days to begin serving his prison sentence.

U.S. Attorney Kenneth J. Gonzales said that Massoth was charged in a four-count indictment on April 13, 2011, alleging that he failed to file federal tax returns between 2004 and 2007. According to the indictment, during that period, Massoth and his spouse received the following gross income: \$206,647 in 2004; \$165,043 in 2005; \$178,234 in 2006; and \$200,681 in 2007.

On July 13, 2011, Massoth pled guilty to all four counts of the indictment. In his plea agreement, Massoth admitted that on April 15, 2005; April 15, 2006; April 15, 2007 and April 15, 2008, he willfully failed to file tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service, and that he was aware that he was obligated to file tax returns on his income.

The case was investigated by the Criminal Investigations Division of the Internal Revenue Service, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John C. Anderson.

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12-63