

Department of Justice

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TAX PREPARER SENTENCED TO 30 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR TAX FRAUD

Orlando, Florida - U.S. Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that U.S. District Chief Judge Anne C. Conway today sentenced Jean Marie Boursiquot (age 51, of Deltona, Florida) to two and a half years in federal prison for conspiracy to defraud the Internal Revenue Service out of tax revenue. The court also ordered Boursiquot to pay \$149,456.59 in restitution to the United States. Boursiquot had pleaded guilty on May 21, 2009.

According to court documents, Boursiquot ran his own tax preparation company and prepared tax returns and amended tax returns for transient Haitian immigrants in Florida. Boursiquot had the IRS mail him the refund checks directly and deposited the checks into his business account. In 2002, Boursiquot received nearly \$400,000 from the IRS and pocketed more than \$250,000 of the money that was intended for his clients. In 2003, Boursiquot received more than \$500,000 from the IRS and kept more than \$400,000 of his client's money. Boursiquot did not file a tax return for the 2002 tax year, and he only claimed \$41,341.00 in income for the 2003 tax year. From 2002 to 2003, Boursiquot lived in a \$700,000 home in the community of Windermere, Florida. Before bringing criminal charges against Boursiquot, the United States d sought an injunction against Boursiquot to keep him from acting as a tax preparer. On August 8, 2006, the United States District Court in the Southern District of Florida entered an order finding that Boursiquot had defrauded the United States and directed Boursiquot to pay the United States more than \$850,000 for filing false tax claims on behalf of unwilling clients. The Court concluded that Boursiquot had forged his clients' signatures on the tax returns that he prepared. The Court further directed that Boursiquot not act as a tax preparer.

Boursiquot's co-defendant, Marie Nerlande Thelemarque, is at large and has yet to be arrested by authorities. Any information about Thelemarque's whereabouts should be forwarded to the IRS Criminal Investigation Section. The indictment against Thelemarque is merely a formal charge that she has committed violations of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney J. Bishop Ravenel.