



Department of Justice

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POTENTIAL TRIAL WITNESS SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR LYING TO FEDERAL AGENTS

Union City Man Lied to Cover-up His Involvement in a Mail Fraud Scheme

ATLANTA, GA - TERRY G. CLARK, SR., 58, of Union City, Georgia, was sentenced today by United States District Judge J. Owen Forrester to serve over 1 year in federal prison on a charge of making false statements to federal agents.

United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates said of the case, "Our legal system hinges on the truth. Without it, there is no justice. For years, this defendant lied to law enforcement about his knowledge and involvement in a crime, preventing justice from being served. Today's prison sentence shows the serious consequences for those who don't tell the truth to federal investigators."

J. Russell George, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, whose Atlanta office handled the investigation, noted that the case shows individuals must cooperate truthfully with Federal investigations. "This individual made false statements to our investigators to cover up his involvement in an illegal scheme," Mr. George said. "This case sends a strong message: individuals who make false statements to law enforcement officers conducting an investigation will face serious consequences."

CLARK was sentenced to 1 year, 6 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, and was ordered to pay \$107,750 in restitution. CLARK pleaded guilty to the charge on May 12, 2010.

According to United States Attorney Yates, the charges and other information presented in court: In 2002 and 2003, a now-convicted federal defendant, James R. Brown, negotiated and attempted to negotiate stolen United States Treasury checks using a mutual fund account opened through CLARK's business, claiming to be business partners with the taxpayers named on the checks. Between 2004 and 2010, CLARK was interviewed by federal law enforcement on at least three occasions, each time denying any knowledge that the checks were stolen.

In 2008, Brown was charged with mail fraud and interstate transportation of stolen securities related to stolen United States Treasury checks. CLARK was scheduled to be a witness in the Brown's criminal trial in January, 2010. In a trial preparation interview, CLARK made false statements regarding a stolen \$20,110.23 United States Treasury check. Further investigation revealed that, during the same time period that Brown was depositing stolen United States Treasury checks through accounts opened by CLARK, CLARK had deposited a stolen \$20,110.23 United States Treasury check, as well as another stolen United States Treasury check, into his church's bank account. The investigation showed that CLARK then wrote checks from the church account to himself, Brown, and their relatives for their personal use and benefit. CLARK made the false statements to conceal his criminal involvement in the fraud scheme for which James Brown was being prosecuted.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Office of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA).

Assistant United States Attorney Jamila M. Hall prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact Sally Q. Yates, United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.justice.gov/usao/gan.