

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Tax Preparer Gets 18 Months in Prison for Tax Evasion

(More)

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TRENTON – An Irvington man was sentenced today to 18 months in federal prison for filing a false personal income tax return for tax year 2001, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

Martain Kemp, 55, of Irvington owned and operated EZ as ABC Income Tax Services, Inc., an income tax preparation business, located in East Orange since 1971. He was also a former internal auditor for Tiffany & Company and a former insurance agent for Prudential Insurance Company.

U.S. District Judge Freda L. Wolfson told Kemp to surrender to the Bureau of Prisons within 10 days of designation of the facility where he will serve his sentence. In the meantime, he remains free on a \$25,000 unsecured bond.

The criminal Information to which Kemp pleaded guilty charged him with filing personal tax returns that were false in material respects for the tax years 1999 through 2001, resulting in a total tax loss of approximately \$127,996.

Kemp pleaded guilty on Dec. 8, 2006, to one count of tax evasion relating to his personal 2001 individual tax return. The offense carries a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison.

The Information also charged Kemp with filing at least 41 false and fraudulent federal income tax returns for the tax years 1999 through 2001 on behalf of individuals who retained his services at EZ as ABC Income Tax Services, Inc., causing a total tax loss to the government of approximately \$89,198.

In determining the actual sentence, Judge Wolfson consulted 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, was not bound by those guidelines in determining the sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Christie credited Special Agents of the IRS Criminal Investigation Division, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge William P. Offord, for their work on the investigation.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Rose of the Government Fraud Unit in Newark.

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Defense Attorney: Michael Handwerker, Esq. - New York