U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney Northern District of New York

100 South Clinton Street

Room 900; P.O. Box 7198 Syracuse, New York 13261-7198 (315) 448-0672

PRESS RELEASE

October 15, 2008

Andrew T. Baxter, United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, today announced the guilty plea of Sun H. Park, 54, Park Avenue, New York, New York, for mail and tax fraud.

Park is an accountant. From 2001 through 2007, she prepared federal income tax returns for Chun Mun Chae a/k/a "Charlie Brown" and companies he owned, including Top Ace Services, Inc., Top Ace Enterprises, LLC, Charlie Brown Service, Inc., K-One Service, Inc., and HiTech Services Corporation. Mr. Chae provided temporary workers for numerous asbestos abatement companies located in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. On behalf of Chae, Park applied for and received workers' compensation insurance policies from the New York State Insurance Fund (NYSIF), Princeton Insurance, and Zurich Group. The fee charged by these insurance companies for workers' compensation insurance was based on the yearly wages and the type of work being conducted by the employees. Park intentionally placed false information on the applications regarding the nature of Chae's employee's work by failing to disclose that they were involved in asbestos abatement work, which would have triggered one of the highest insurance rates charged for worker's compensation insurance; and she falsified the amount of wages being paid and the number of workers. Park defrauded these companies out of more than \$1.5 million. She thereafter aided Chae by preparing false and fraudulent income tax returns on his behalf.

Chae was previously sentenced to 46 months in prison for his role in the illegal scheme. Sentencing for Park has been set for February 26, 2009 at 11am before the Hon. Thomas J. McAvoy in Binghamton, NY.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Internal Revenue Service together with Investigators from the New York State Insurance Fund and the Inspector General for the Workers Compensation Board, Office of Fraud. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Craig A. Benedict, who can be reached at 315-448-0672.