



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DECEMBER 21, 2007**

**CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
YUSILL SCRIBNER,
REBEKAH CARMICHAEL
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 637-2600**

**BRONX TAX PREPARER PLEADS GUILTY TO
TWENTY-SEVEN COUNTS OF TAX FRAUD**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that ROBERT M. QUINONES pleaded guilty today to false-return charges stemming from the operation of tax return preparation businesses known "Uncle Sam's Nephew" and "Exact Accounting Services," both of which were located in the Bronx, New York, as well as to false claim charges in connection with his own personal tax returns. According to the Indictment and statements made during QUINONES' guilty plea before United States District Judge DENISE L. COTE:

From 2001 through 2005, QUINONES, on multiple occasions, knowingly included false items on tax returns he prepared for the clients of his tax preparation businesses. The false items he included in his clients' returns included phony medical expenses, unreimbursed business expenses, and bogus gifts to charity, all of which led to increased refunds for his clients. QUINONES's inclusion of false deductions on twenty-seven income tax returns caused the IRS losses of approximately \$95,000.

QUINONES also admitted that he caused the filing of false claims for refunds in connection with his personal tax returns. According to the Indictment, for tax years 2002 and 2003, QUINONES filed personal income tax returns and W-2 forms claiming that he was due refunds for each of those years, by falsely asserting that the funds had been withheld from the paychecks he had received while working at an area hospital. In fact, as QUINONES admitted earlier today in his guilty plea, he never worked at the hospital. Moreover, the W-2 forms submitted to the IRS with QUINONES's tax returns were forged. After the forged W-2 forms were submitted, QUINONES received refunds to which he was not entitled, in the aggregate approximate amount of \$20,000.

QUINONES pleaded guilty to twenty-five counts of aiding and assisting in the preparation of false tax returns and two counts of filing false claims for refund. QUINONES faces up to three years' imprisonment on each of the false tax return charges; and up to five years' imprisonment on each of the false claim for refund charges. Sentencing is scheduled for March 28, 2008.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative work of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division, and thanked them for their assistance in this case.

This case is being prosecuted by the Office's Major Crimes Unit. Special Assistant United States Attorneys MICHAEL BEN'ARY and ANDREW KAMEROS are in charge of the prosecution.

07-317

###