



***United States Attorney
Southern District of New York***

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**ROCKLAND COUNTY WOMAN CHARGED IN WHITE PLAINS FEDERAL COURT
WITH MAKING CORRUPT PAYMENTS TO AN IRS REVENUE AGENT**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that CHINH TRAN, 41, of West Nyack, New York, has been arrested on charges of making corrupt payments to an Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") revenue agent.

According to a Complaint filed in White Plains federal court, TRAN's 2007 Individual Income Tax Return was selected for audit by the IRS. The audit concerned, among other things, the amount of income that TRAN, the owner a nail salon in Nanuet, New York, reported from a similar business that she owned in Grapevine, Texas. During the course of the audit, TRAN offered, and ultimately gave, corrupt payments to an IRS revenue agent, who, unbeknownst to TRAN, was working with law enforcement. Specifically, TRAN gave a bottle of liquor and \$18,000 in cash to the revenue agent - with the intention that the money was for the revenue agent's own use - in exchange for having the revenue agent close the pending audit of TRAN's income tax return and issue a letter to TRAN indicating that no changes were proposed to TRAN's income tax return as a result of the audit.

TRAN was presented in White Plains federal court before U.S. Magistrate Judge PAUL E. DAVISON this afternoon. She was released on a \$250,000 personal recognizance bond, co-signed by one financially responsible person. If convicted, TRAN faces a maximum of 15 years' imprisonment.

Mr. BHARARA praised the efforts and assistance of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

This matter is being handled by the Office's White Plains Division. Assistant United States Attorney KATHRYN M. MARTIN is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Complaint against the defendant are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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