



U.S. Department of Justice

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**PRESS RELEASE
*UTAH MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON
AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO TAX EVASION***

SALT LAKE CITY – Gary Ward, a Utah resident, will spend one year in prison after pleading guilty in September to one count of tax evasion in connection with efforts he took to evade income tax due to the United States on behalf of two individuals.

U.S. District Judge David Sam issued the sentence Wednesday in federal court. Judge Sam also ordered Ward to serve 36 months of supervised release when he finishes his prison sentence.

As a part of the plea agreement he reached with federal prosecutors, Ward admitted that on April 15, 2007, he prepared a U.S. individual income tax return for two individuals, identified in charging documents as G.F. and G.F. The tax return reported five fictitious transactions that reduced the clients' taxable income by \$2 million.

Ward admitted that at the time he prepared and signed the income tax returns, he knew that the transactions had not taken place.

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