



The United States Attorney's Office

## District of Massachusetts

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2009  
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/MA

CONTACT: CHRISTINA DIORIO-STERLING  
PHONE: (617)748-3356  
E-MAIL: USAMA.MEDIA@USDOJ.GOV

### READING WOMAN CHARGED WITH FILING FALSE TAX RETURNS

Boston, MA - A Reading, Massachusetts woman was charged today in federal court with filing tax returns that were false because they omitted significant income she received from her work as a real estate paralegal.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan, Joann S. Zuniga, Acting Special Agent in Charge of Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation - Boston Field Division, and Warren T. Bamford, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Division, announced today that MARGHERITA MAURO, age 36, of Reading, was charged in a three-count Indictment with filing false tax returns.

According to the Indictment, from 2002 through 2004, MAURO received significant income in addition to her salary, from her job as a paralegal at the real estate law firms of Guida and Perry, P.C. and the Law Offices of Christopher T. Perry. Specifically, the Indictment charges that, on numerous occasions from 2002 through 2004, MAURO issued and signed checks to herself or for her benefit from both of the firms' operating and IOLTA accounts. She deposited some of these checks into her personal bank accounts, while she used others to make mortgage payments on property she owned and to pay personal credit card bills. This additional income ranged from approximately \$152,024 in 2002 (almost equal to her salary) to \$418,765 for 2003 (close to three times her salary).

The tax returns MAURO filed for 2002 and 2003 made no mention of this significant additional income. In 2004, the law firms issued Form 1099's to MAURO, documenting the additional funds she received that year. While MAURO did list the amounts from these 1099's on her 2004 return, she falsely claimed that the 1099's were issued in error and that the amounts listed on them were not income she received.

If convicted, MAURO faces a maximum sentence of three years in prison, to be followed by one year of supervised release, a \$100,000 fine, and restitution.

The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service's Criminal Investigation and Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Adam Bookbinder of Sullivan's Economic Crimes Unit.

The details contained in the Indictment are allegations. The defendant is presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

###