

PRESS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Newark Field Office Acting Special Agent in Charge Jonathan D. Larsen

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PASSAIC COUNTY TAX PREPARER SENTENCED FOR PREPARING FRAUDULENT TAX RETURNS

Newark, New Jersey –The owner of Gunby Consulting, Inc. and Gunby Consulting Group, located in Clifton, N.J., was sentenced today to 18 months in prison for willfully preparing false tax returns for clients.

U.S. District Judge Claire C. Cecchi also ordered Sean Gunby Sr., 45, a resident of Jersey City, N.J. to serve 1year of supervised release and pay restitution to the Internal Revenue Service in the amount of \$84,559.

"Return preparer fraud is like a contagious disease, it affects not only the preparer, but the individuals who have filed false information with the Internal Revenue Service," stated Jonathan D. Larsen, Acting Special Agent in Charge, IRS-Criminal Investigation, Newark Field Office. "It is our hope that today's sentence sends the message that tampering with the integrity of our nation's tax system will result in jail time."

Previously, on December 16, 2013, Gunby pleaded guilty to aiding and assisting in the preparation of false tax returns.

According to court documents and statements made in court:

Gunby was the sole owner and operator of Gunby Consulting, Inc. and Gunby Consulting Group. For the tax years 2006 through 2010, Gunby admitted that he prepared false tax returns for his clients by fabricating and inflating certain expenses, deductions and credits on Schedules A, C, D and E, of his clients personal tax returns.

By falsifying this information, Gunby was able to obtain tax refunds for his clients greater than those they were lawfully entitled to receive. The total amount of tax the Internal Revenue Service was defrauded as a result of the fraudulent returns prepared by Gunby is approximately \$84,559.

The investigation was conducted by IRS-Criminal Investigation, Newark Field Office, under the direction of Acting Special Agent in Charge Jonathan D. Larsen and The U.S. Attorney's Office, under the direction of U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman.

The Government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Dara Govan.

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