



PRESS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation
Cincinnati Field Office
Special Agent in Charge Kathy A. Enstrom

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Contact: Craig Casserly
IRS – Criminal Investigation
401 N. Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 744-3130
Craig.casserly@ci.irs.gov
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MIDDLETOWN WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY IN INCOME TAX FRAUD CONSPIRACY

CINCINNATI, OHIO – Georgia Freeman, 42, of Middletown, Ohio, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to file false claims for federal income tax refunds with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Freeman faces a maximum of 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000.

Carter M. Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio and Kathy A. Enstrom, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, Cincinnati Field Office, announced the guilty plea entered before Senior U.S. District Judge Herman J. Weber.

According to court documents, between January 2012 and February 2012, Freeman conspired with others to defraud the IRS by obtaining false claims for federal income tax refunds in the amount of \$51,075 by filing false federal income tax returns.

Freeman unlawfully used false Form's W-2 that were filed with the false federal income tax returns. The false Form's W-2 indicated that wages were paid to the "taxpayer", when in fact no such wages were paid, resulting in a fraudulent claims for income tax refunds.

Freeman recruited individuals in the Cincinnati, Ohio area that provided their personal identification information to her in order to file the false income tax returns that resulted in the false claims for income tax refunds. These individuals did not work and were not entitled to any income tax refunds.

Freeman prepared the false Form's W-2 which contained false wage and withholding information that were filed with false income tax returns. These income tax returns falsely claimed the Earned Income Tax Credit or otherwise falsely indicated that an income tax refund was due.

Freeman split the amount received from the fraudulent income tax refunds with the recruited individuals and others. Freeman received payments of up to \$3,000 per refund.

Kathy A. Enstrom, Special Agent in Charge, Criminal Investigation, Cincinnati Field Office said, "Individuals who commit refund fraud of this magnitude and with this degree of trickery, dishonesty and deceit, deserve to be punished to the fullest extent of the law. IRS Criminal Investigation, along with our law enforcement partners and the United States Attorney's Office, remain vigilant in identifying, investigating and prosecuting those individuals who seek to willfully defraud the United States Treasury."

This case was prosecuted by Senior Litigator Anne L. Porter and was investigated by special agents of IRS-Criminal Investigation, the Cincinnati Police Department, and the Lockland Police Department.

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