



PRESS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation
Cincinnati Field Office
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MIDDLETOWN WOMAN SENTENCED IN INCOME TAX FRAUD CONSPIRACY

CINCINNATI, OHIO – Georgia Freeman, 43, of Middletown, Ohio, was sentenced to twelve months and one day in prison, three years of supervised release, and ordered to pay \$51,075 in restitution to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for conspiring to file false claims for federal income tax refunds with the IRS. Freeman previously pleaded guilty to this charge on August 27, 2013.

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 sentence handed down today by 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.

“At the IRS, protecting taxpayer money is a matter we take extremely seriously. An integral part of the agency’s mission involves detecting and catching fraudulent income tax refund claims,” stated Kathy A. Enstrom, Special Agent in Charge, Criminal Investigation, Cincinnati Field Office. “The object of these schemes is to defraud the government and the taxpaying public.”

This case was prosecuted by Senior Litigation Counsel 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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