



# PRESS RELEASE

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

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### **EIGHT INDICTED IN CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD THE IRS**

COLUMBUS, OHIO -- A federal grand jury here has indicted eight individuals with one count each of conspiring to defraud the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by willfully filing false claims for income tax refunds. Those charged are as follows:

Kimberly R. Wallace, 51, of, Dennison, Ohio  
Kenneth L. McDonald, 26, of Reynoldsburg, Ohio  
Javon C. Brown, 44, of Columbus, Ohio  
Nikkia D. Jackson, 36, of Columbus, Ohio  
Tyrone J. Palmer, 34, of Columbus, Ohio  
Debra L. Taylor, 59, of Columbus, Ohio  
Keyland D. Whitby, 25, of Columbus, Ohio  
Tyrone L. Woody, 27, of Columbus, Ohio.

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 indictment returned April 15.

According to the indictment, these defendants allegedly created and used false Forms W-2 and aided and abetted others in preparing and filing false 2008 and 2009 federal income tax returns claiming refunds to which they knew they were not entitled. This conspiracy consisted of recruiting other persons to file false and fraudulent income tax returns in their own names, using their genuine social security numbers. Also, by creating false Forms W-2 in the names of other individuals, using their respective social security numbers, and containing the names of employers who did not employ these individuals. The false Forms W-2 contained fabricated amounts of income tax withholdings.

Each of the defendants either recruited individuals from whom they received personal identifying information ("PII") used in the preparation and filing of fraudulent 2009 income tax returns, or received PII information from others that was used in the preparation and filing of fraudulent 2009 income tax returns. The PII information was used to create false Forms W-2 which was included with the filing of the fraudulent income tax returns in order to claim the false income tax refunds for which they were not entitled, and for which each of the defendants received a share of the false income tax refunds.

Conspiracy to file false claims with for income tax refunds with the IRS carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000.

"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 tax refund claims," stated Kathy A. Enstrom, Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation, Cincinnati Field Office. "The object of these schemes is to defraud the government and the taxpaying public."

These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel Brown and were investigated by special agents of IRS-Criminal Investigation.

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