



# PRESS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation  
Los Angeles Field Office  
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Date: January 15, 2014

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CI Release #: LAFO-2014-01

## **Tujunga Man Sentenced to Federal Prison for Conspiring to Defraud the IRS**

*Millions of dollars in false claims were submitted to the IRS through the scheme*

Los Angeles – Appearing before United States District Judge Dolly M. Gee, a Tujunga man was sentenced today to eight months in federal prison followed by three years of supervised release to include 12 months of home detention for conspiring to make a false claim for payment against the Internal Revenue Service.

Adels Torosyan, 30, was further ordered to pay restitution of \$303,735 to the IRS. Torosyan will begin serving his prison sentence on March 28, 2014.

According to documents filed with the court, Torosyan admitted that from approximately February 2009 to March 2012, he participated in a conspiracy with his former girlfriend to obtain tax refunds based on the submission of fraudulent income tax returns to the IRS. Through his participation in the scheme, Torosyan caused \$2,024,423 of intended loss and \$303,735 of actual loss to the IRS.

Torosyan's unidentified co-conspirator would create the fraudulent tax returns, including false Forms W-2 which claimed that taxes were withheld. Torosyan's role in the conspiracy was to open bank accounts and commercial mailboxes in the names of other people. Tax refunds based on fraudulent tax returns were direct deposited into the bank accounts that Torosyan opened or mailed to the boxes that he opened.

Torosyan's unidentified co-conspirator would provide him with false passports to use in opening these bank accounts and commercial mailboxes. The passports would have Torosyan's photograph, but names of other people.

In addition to opening bank accounts and mailboxes, Torosyan would pick up mail from the mailboxes, including fraudulent tax refund checks. Torosyan also signed a fraudulent application for a taxpayer identification number in a name that was not his own. Subsequently, Torosyan endorsed and deposited a fraudulently obtained tax refund check in the same name.

The investigation of Torosyan was conducted by IRS Criminal Investigation in Los Angeles in conjunction with the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California.

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