



# NEWS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation  
Los Angeles Field Office  
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## **Recidivist Tax Preparer Sentenced to Statutory Maximum for Preparing False Tax Returns**

LOS ANGELES - A Whittier man who was previously convicted in Los Angeles in 1998 for preparing false tax returns was sentenced today for again defrauding the Internal Revenue Service.

Calvin Tyrone Ridgill, 61, a tax preparer who operated two tax preparation businesses on Gale Avenue and Hacienda Boulevard in Hacienda Heights, was sentenced to 36 months in federal prison, followed by a year of supervised release, for aiding and assisting in the preparation of false tax returns. Additionally, Ridgill has agreed to be barred for life from aiding or assisting in the preparation of federal income tax returns for anyone other than himself and his legal spouse.

At the hearing, U.S. district court Judge Margaret Morrow rejected Mr. Ridgill's plea for leniency, finding that he had shown an egregious disregard for the tax laws, and sentenced him to the statutory maximum sentence.

As part of his sentence, Ridgill was ordered to pay \$357,477 in restitution to the IRS. In its sentencing papers, the government argued Ridgill's assets were more than sufficient to pay the ordered restitution, including a home in Whittier and a vacation property in Truckee, California.

According to the plea agreement filed in the case, during the years 2010, 2011 and 2012, Ridgill prepared federal income tax returns for his clients claiming false or inflated income tax refunds based on false deductions. The false deductions included false losses from the sale of business property, false

Schedule E partnership losses, false mortgage interest deductions, or false mortgage points, resulting in the understatement of the tax liability owed to the IRS. The returns were filed with the IRS and resulted in tax losses of more than \$400,000.

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

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