



NEWS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation
Los Angeles Field Office
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Los Angeles Return Preparer Faces Six Years Imprisonment for Cheating on His Own Tax Returns

Los Angeles – A professional income tax return preparer pleaded guilty today to failing to report income totaling over \$421,000 on his 2008 and 2009 federal income tax returns, creating a tax loss to the government of over \$140,000.

Oscar G. Barabino, 56, of Los Angeles, pleaded guilty before United States District Judge Michael W. Fitzgerald to an information filed in March charging him with two counts of subscribing to a false income tax return.

According to the plea agreement filed in the case, for the 2008 tax year, Barabino omitted approximately \$296,987 from his total income, resulting in a tax loss to the government of approximately \$102,932. For his 2009 tax return, Barabino omitted approximately \$124,283 from his total income, resulting in a tax loss to the government of approximately \$37,800.

As part of the plea agreement, Barabino has agreed to not prepare or assist anyone, other than himself or his spouse, in the preparation of any federal or California State income tax returns during his period of supervised release. He further agrees to make full restitution to the United States for the tax losses caused by the filing of the fraudulent returns.

As a result of today's guilty plea, Barabino faces a statutory maximum sentence of six years in federal prison and a fine of \$500,000 when he is sentenced by Judge Fitzgerald on July 25, 2016.

The investigation and prosecution of Barabino 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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