



PRESS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation
Newark Field Office
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TRUCKING COMPANY OWNER PLEADS GUILTY TO EMPLOYMENT TAX CHARGES

Camden, N.J. –The operator of a trucking company pleaded guilty today to employment tax charges.

George Valentine, a resident of Williamstown, N.J., entered his plea in Camden federal court before U. S. District Judge Noel L. Hillman. Valentine pleaded guilty to two counts of failing to collect, account for and pay over payroll taxes. Sentencing is scheduled for May 10, 2016.

“Business owners have a responsibility to withhold payroll taxes from their employees and remit those taxes to the Internal Revenue Service,” stated Jonathan D. Larsen, Special Agent in Charge, IRS-Criminal Investigation, Newark Field Office. “IRS-Criminal Investigation vigorously pursues anyone who intentionally fails to collect, account for and pay over payroll taxes.”

According to court documents and statements made in court:

Valentine operated J & F Trucking, a trucking business located in Camden, N.J. J & F Trucking later changed its name to River Road Trucking and Valentine was listed as the owner. As the operator/owner of these businesses, Valentine was responsible for collecting, accounting for and paying over payroll taxes for the employees. Valentine was also responsible for filing with the IRS Form 941, Employer’s Quarterly Federal Tax Returns, reflecting the employment taxes that these businesses had withheld and paid to the Internal Revenue Service each quarter.

Valentine admitted that for the second quarter of 2009, he failed to file a Form 941 for J & F Trucking and failed to pay over \$10,674 in payroll taxes on behalf of his employees. Valentine also admitted that for the second quarter of 2012, he failed to file a Form 941 for River Road Trucking and failed to pay over \$6,634 in payroll taxes on behalf of his employees.

In addition, Valentine admitted between 2007 and 2012, he failed to file various Forms 941 and pay over to the IRS at least \$187,792 of payroll taxes for J & F Trucking and at least \$128,612 of payroll taxes for River Road Trucking.

Each count carries a statutory maximum prison sentence of five years and a statutory maximum fine equal to the greatest of: (1) \$250,000; (2) twice the gross amount of any pecuniary gain derived from the offense; or (3) twice the gross amount of any pecuniary loss sustained by any victims of the offense.

The investigation was conducted by IRS-Criminal Investigation, Newark Field Office, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Jonathan D. Larsen and the U.S. Attorney's Office, under the direction of U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman.

The Government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jason M. Richardson.

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