



PRESS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation
New Orleans Field Office
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BATON ROUGE RETURN PREPARER SENTENCED FOR FILING FALSE INCOME TAX RETURNS

New Orleans, LA – IRS Criminal Investigation Special Agent in Charge Jerome R. McDuffie announced today that a Baton Rouge man was sentenced on Friday, January 29, 2016, for filing a false personal income tax return and preparing false income tax returns for others.

AROS COMEAUX, 45, of Baton Rouge, La., was sentenced in U.S. District court to serve twenty-four months imprisonment, one year of supervised release and ordered to pay \$227,486.00 in restitution to the Internal Revenue Service.

COMEAUX owned and operated ACI Computer and Tax Services in Baton Rouge, La. COMEAUX was paid to prepare and file 2009 and 2010 tax returns on behalf of his clients. COMEAUX prepared false income tax returns for his clients without their knowledge by creating and attaching false and totally fictitious business losses from Forms Schedule C, Profit or Loss From Business or Profession. The false business losses reduced his clients taxable income, reduced the total amount of tax due, and maximized his clients' refunds. COMEAUX also underreported his own income earned from ACI.

"Return Preparer fraud is a priority for IRS Criminal Investigation and we have committed many resources to these cases," said Special Agent in Charge McDuffie. "Mr. COMEAUX willfully and intentionally abused his position as a tax return preparer for his own selfish gains. Taxpayers should be very selective in choosing a return preparer, and have confidence that their returns are prepared accurately and reflect only the information that they provide. We will continue to vigorously investigate and prosecute return preparers who abuse the nation's tax system."

Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation conducted the investigation. Taxpayers are encouraged to visit the IRS.gov website for tips on choosing a tax professional.

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