



# PRESS RELEASE

## Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation *Chief Richard Weber*

Date: February 9, 2017

Contact: \*CI-HQ-COMMUNICATIONSEDCATION@ci.irs.gov  
IRS – Criminal Investigation

CI Release #: CI-2017-02-09-A

### **Two Illinois Women Plead Guilty to Conspiring to File Fraudulent Tax Returns Using Stolen Identities**

*Filed More than 850 Fraudulent Returns Seeking \$2.7 Million in Refunds*

Roxann Gist and Dominique King, both of Chicago, Illinois, pleaded guilty to conspiracy and other charges related to a scheme to obtain fraudulent tax refunds using stolen ID information, announced Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Stuart M. Goldberg of the Justice Department's Tax Division and U.S. Attorney Zachary T. Fardon of the Northern District of Illinois.

According to documents filed with the court, from 2012 to 2015, Gist, 45, and King, 26, along with another co-conspirator filed at least 858 fraudulent income tax returns, using stolen names and social security numbers. Those returns sought approximately \$2,780,724 in refunds. As part of the scheme, Gist and King acquired the personal identification information of thousands of unsuspecting individuals, and directed others to receive and collect fraudulent income tax refund checks, and to open up bank accounts to receive direct deposits of such refunds. They also recruited others to provide addresses where refund checks could be delivered.

Gist and King are scheduled to be sentenced on June 6 and June 14, respectively. Gist faces a statutory maximum sentence of five years in prison for conspiracy to steal public funds, 10 years in prison for theft of public money and a two-year mandatory minimum sentence for aggravated identity theft, which will run consecutive to any other sentence imposed by the court. King faces a statutory maximum sentence of five years in prison for conspiracy to steal public funds and a two-year mandatory minimum sentence for aggravated identity theft, which will run consecutive to any other sentence imposed by the court. Gist and King also face a period of supervised release, restitution and monetary penalties.

Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Goldberg commended special agents of IRS-Criminal Investigation, who conducted the investigation, and Trial Attorney Timothy M. Russo of the Tax Division, who prosecuted this case. Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Goldberg also thanked the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois for their substantial assistance in the case.

###