PRESS RELEASE

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation
Newark Field Office
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NEW JERSEY MAN PLEADS GUILTY FOR MAKING FALSE CLAIM TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Newark, N.J. – A New Jersey man pleaded guilty today to making a false claim to the Internal Revenue Service.

Mach Worotikan, 56, entered his plea in Newark federal court before U.S. Magistrate Judge Joseph A. Dickson. Worotikan pleaded guilty to one count of making a false claim to the government. Sentencing is scheduled for June 26, 2016.

“IRS Criminal Investigation is sworn to protect the tax system and bring to justice those who steal from the U.S. Treasury,” stated Jonathan D. Larsen, Special Agent in Charge, IRS-Criminal Investigation, Newark Field Office.

According to court documents and statements made in court:

During the period June 30, 2010, through November 7, 2011, Mach Worotikan devised a scheme to defraud the Internal Revenue Service by preparing and filing fraudulent tax returns. Worotikan approached taxpayers in the Middlesex county area and proposed preparing their tax returns for a nominal fee or no fee at all.

Worotikan admitted that for the tax year 2009, he prepared a tax return for an individual with the initials A.L. Worotikan used the basic information from that individual’s Form W-2 to prepare the tax return. Worotikan then added claims for false dependents, false child and dependent care expenses, false student loan interest, and/ or false unreimbursed employee expenses to each of the tax returns. Worotikan addressed A.L.’s tax return to a post office box that he controlled rather than to A.L.’s home

address. Worotikan did this so that he would be able to collect A.L.'s refund check. Worotikan received A.L's refund check, cashed the refund check at a check cashing business and kept the money for himself.

For sentencing purposes, the attempted total tax loss to the government as result of Worotikan's pattern of fraudulent activity is approximately $97,265.

The count of making a false claim to the government 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 Acting U.S. Attorney William E. Fitzpatrick.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney James Donnelly.

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