

# Taxing Times

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Read about taxpayers with IRS problems and learn helpful tips on how to end them.



LAW OFFICE OF GERALD R. NOWOTNY, PLLC



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"You deserve to keep more of your hard earned money."

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## MALE ESCORT GETS 21 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR TAX CASE

*He lied on his tax returns, resulting in a tax loss to the IRS of \$278,325.*

A male escort who lied to the IRS about his income was sentenced to 21 months in prison and ordered to pay \$278,325 in restitution.

According to court records, Jami Kopacz, 46, of Miami, Florida, worked as a paid escort directly with individual clients and with a private escort company as an independent contractor. Kopacz worked under a "Subchapter S" corporation, JK Trading LLC.

From 2015 to 2018, Kopacz filed false corporate tax returns with the IRS that substantially underreported JK Training's gross receipts and total income.

This understatement on JK Training's corporate tax returns passed through to Kopacz's individual tax returns, which were also false because they underreported his total income. Kopacz's filings caused a total tax loss to the IRS of \$278,325.

## HEALTH CARE EXEC GETS 37 MONTHS IN PRISON

A health care executive in Texas was sentenced to 37 months in federal prison and ordered to pay more than \$3.4 million in restitution for defrauding the IRS.

Donald O'Connor Ramsey, 72, pleaded guilty to failure to pay over withholding and FICA taxes in February 2020.

According to court documents, Ramsey, the owner and chief financial officer of Community Care Medical (CCM) and Medical Case *CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*

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Management & Social Services (MCM), failed to pay employment taxes to the IRS from 2013 to 2018. Ramsey failed to regularly file quarterly returns with the IRS, while continuing to withhold his employees' salaries. Ramsey's conduct resulted in a tax loss of approximately \$1.9 million to the IRS.

## DOC FACES FIVE YEARS IN TAX CASE

A Virginia doctor pleaded guilty today to willful failure to pay employment taxes.

According to court records, Arshad Pervez Cheema owned and operated Walk-In Medical Center, PC, a medical practice located in Falls Church and Herndon, Virginia.

Over a four-year period from 2012 to 2016, Cheema willfully did not pay over \$500,000 in payroll taxes. Instead, he used some of the withheld funds for other business ventures, including to open and run a restaurant in Washington, D.C. In addition, Cheema did not pay corporate taxes for Walk-In Medical Center, PC, nor did he pay employment taxes for another doctor's office, Falls Church Family Care PC, which he operated.

In total, Cheema did not pay more than \$2 million in employment and corporate taxes.

He faces up to five years in prison.

# LICENSED

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## WOMAN SKIMMED GAMING MACHINE PROFITS

*The woman's company split gaming machine profits with bar owners, then underreported income.*

A Wisconsin woman who operated a gaming machine company pleaded guilty to conspiring to defraud the IRS and to filing a false 2018 corporate income tax return for her business.

Mary Lavine, 65, Madison, Wisconsin, was sentenced to one year and one day in prison and fined \$75,000.

Lavine ran Bullseye Inc. with another person, who is now deceased. Bullseye operated as a coin-operated music and amusement game vending business.

Lavine admitted that Bullseye also contracted with bar owners to place video gaming machines at their bars.

Bullseye split the profits generated by the machine with the bar owners. Different bar owners had different profit-sharing agreements with Bullseye.

Lavine admitted that she worked with

certain bar owners to skim the cash receipts generated from the machines and not report 100 percent of the cash receipts to the IRS or Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

This underreporting caused Bullseye to evade its own corporate income taxes, as well as the Wisconsin sales taxes and income taxes for Bullseye and its bar owners.

In addition to her prison sentence and fine, Lavine was also ordered to pay \$834,769.65 to the IRS and \$1.9 million to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. To date, five individuals have pleaded guilty as part of this criminal tax investigation and Lavine is the fourth to be sentenced.

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## ABOUT THE **OFFER IN COMPROMISE**

### Did you know it's possible to settle your debt with the Internal Revenue Service for less than the IRS says you owe?

If you owe a substantial amount in back taxes to the government, you may be eligible to participate in the Offer in Compromise program. This program allows you to make an offer to the IRS that could settle your tax debt for significantly less than you owe.

**Call to learn more about this program.**

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## ABOUT THE **INSTALLMENT AGREEMENT**

### Are you earning a good living but just unable to pay your back taxes?

### The Installment Agreement may be the option.

The Installment Agreement allows taxpayers to pay their tax debt over time by making manageable payments. The Installment Agreement can put you back in control of your financial future.

**Call to learn more about this program.**

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## TEXAS LAWYER PLEADS GUILTY IN TAX CASE

*He faces up to five years in prison.*

A Texas lawyer pleaded guilty today to federal employment tax violations.

According to court records, John Bennett White IV, 60, of Tyler, Texas, made sporadic and partial efforts to pay his firm's employment tax liabilities from 2007 to 2015.

For multiple quarters during the same period, White caused employment taxes to be withheld from the law firm's employees' wages, but willfully failed to fully pay those trust fund taxes of to the IRS.

White filed forms reporting the law firm's employment taxes for each of the quarters. White paid the full amount owed the IRS for 24 of those 38 quarters. White made partial payments on 10 occasions and no payment for seven. In total, White caused a tax loss of more than \$300,000. Instead of paying employment taxes, White paid other creditors and his own personal expenses.

White faces up to five years at sentencing.

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## VERMONT MAN REPORTED LOWER REVENUES TO IRS

A Vermont man was sentenced to time served, to be followed by three years of supervised release, following his conviction for tax evasion.

Christopher Parker, 63, of Guilford, Vermont, is the sole proprietor of a building restoration business.

According to court records, Parker evaded taxes by understating his income. During a period his business generated approximately \$3.35 million in revenue, Parker reported only approximately \$2.5 million to the IRS on his income tax returns, resulting in an approximately \$281,000 tax loss to the United States.



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2. Select the solution we believe is in our client's best interest.
3. Explain our decision to clients, and
4. Aggressively pursue the solution decided upon.

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1. Return client calls in a timely fashion.
2. Respond to IRS notices in a timely fashion.
3. Treat every client with respect, and
4. Work every case like it was our own.

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 **Schedule a FREE CONSULTATION**

## CALL TODAY FOR A CONSULTATION

Constantly thinking about how much money you owe the Internal Revenue Service? Always worried that you'll never be able to get out from under this crushing debt? Wondering what effect this debt will have on your future and the future of your family? You're not the only one. Every day, I work with clients to solve tax problems they believe are unsolvable. I'm a member of the American Society of Tax Problem Solvers, and I am part of the rescue squad for troubled taxpayers.

*If you're ready to be rescued, call me today to schedule a consultation.*

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