

Taxing Times

DECEMBER 2020

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



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

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FORMER N.Y. ELECTED OFFICIAL SENTENCED TO SIX MONTHS

The court also ordered the New Yorker to pay \$254,628 in restitution to the IRS.

A former Town of Hempstead, New York, councilman was sentenced to six months in prison for tax evasion.

diverted more than \$800,000 in legal fees from clients to a bank account unrelated to his law firm.

Edward Ambrosino was a lawyer specializing in economic and industrial development and financings. He also served as a councilman for the Town of Hempstead from March 2003 until he resigned in April.

Ambrosino evaded the assessment of income tax by claiming false and fraudulent business expense deductions and failing to report funds he diverted from the law firm. Specifically, Ambrosino claimed as a business expense rent for a Manhattan apartment that he paid for on behalf of a third party.

From 2013 through 2015, Ambrosino

LAS VEGAS MAN INDICTED FOR TAX CONSPIRACY

A Las Vegas man was indicted for conspiracy to defraud the IRS.

penses.

According to court records, Lance K. Bradford conspired with others to prepare tax returns on behalf of several automotive collision centers falsely claiming that the centers and their owners incurred millions in deductible ex-

From 2013 through 2015, these false returns allegedly

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claimed more than \$11 million in false deductions, resulting in significant underreporting of business income and taxes due to the IRS. If convicted, Bradford faces up to five years in prison for the conspiracy charge and up to three years in prison for each of 29 counts of aiding and assisting the filing of a false tax return. ■

MONTANA BUSINESSMAN GUILTY IN EMPLOYMENT TAX CASE

A Montana businessman pleaded guilty to employment tax fraud.

Trennis Baer owned and operated Baer Construction in Great Falls, Montana. Beginning in 2010 and continuing through 2018, Baer did not file quarterly employment tax returns and did not pay employment taxes withheld from his employees' wages to the IRS.

In addition to not complying with his employment tax obligations, Baer willfully did not file personal income tax returns for the years 2001 to 2006, 2008, and 2010 to 2018. The total tax loss to the IRS from Baer's conduct is more than \$1.5 million.

Baer faces up to five years in prison. ■

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OWNER OF WATERSLIDE GUILTY IN TAX CASE

The waterslide owner provided his real financial information to an undercover federal agent.

The owner of a Missouri waterslide attraction pleaded guilty to making a false tax return.

Jerry Don Beebe, 67, owned and operated Beebe's Roaring River Waterslide in Cassville, Missouri. Beebe admitted that he filed false federal income tax returns for tax years 2015 to 2018 because he did not want to pay additional taxes.

According to his plea, Beebe was interested in selling his business and met with an undercover federal agent, who was posing as a potential buyer. During the meetings, Beebe showed the undercover agent records documenting his company's true gross receipts, which differed from what Beebe reported on his federal tax returns. Beebe's records showed gross receipts of \$135,282 for 2017 (when Beebe only reported \$24,535 on his tax return) and gross receipts of \$145,451 for 2018 (when Beebe only reported \$29,172 on his tax

return).

Beebe admitted that he routinely destroyed his business records. Beebe told the undercover agent that he was in "the mode of secrecy." When showing the undercover agent his 2017 and 2018 records, Beebe said he was "gun shy" and wouldn't have these records much longer. Beebe also dealt in large amounts of cash and told the undercover agent that he paid everything in cash that he could.

According to the terms of his plea, Beebe must pay \$70,824 in restitution to the federal government in unpaid federal taxes from 2015 to 2018, \$6,626 in unpaid Missouri income taxes from 2015 to 2018, and \$13,232 in unpaid Missouri sales taxes from 2015 to 2018. ■

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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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SOUVENIR SHOP OWNER CHARGED

He allegedly did not report more than \$1 million.

The owner of souvenir and T-shirt stores in Minnesota was charged with tax evasion, failure to file a tax return, and failure to account for and pay employment tax.

According to court records, Shimon Shaked, 56, did not report the revenue and income he earned from his stores on his tax returns from 2013 through 2015. Instead, he reported the revenue and income on his daughter's income tax returns. Shaked further evaded the assessment of taxes on the income he earned through the stores by failing to report the full revenue and income to the IRS.

Shaked used the company's bank account to pay for personal expenses, including child support, an apartment in Duluth, and costs associated with attempting to open an alligator farm.

Shaked, who did not file a 2018 tax return, recently opened two new stores in Michigan. In all, Shaked failed to report more than \$4 million in income from 2013 through 2018. He evaded and avoided paying more than \$800,000 in federal income taxes.

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IOWA BOOKIE GETS PROBATION FOR FALSE RETURNS

An Iowa bookie was sentenced to three years of probation for filing a false tax return.

Merksick operated an online bookkeeping operation for gambling. He set up a company, TJM Enterprises, for that purposes.

Tony Merksick, 43, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was also ordered to pay \$100,285 in restitution to the IRS.

An IRS investigation revealed Merksick underreported his company's income by more than \$100,000.



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Our dedication to the principles of professionalism & responsiveness has resulted in our guarantee to:

1. Explore alternative solutions to client tax problems.
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.

We further guarantee to:

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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