

Tax Resolution Times

“Read About Taxpayers with IRS Problems & Find Out How to Solve Them”



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Shoe Drops on Former CFO Who Embezzles \$27 Million; Faces 33 Years in Prison!

The former CFO of Alden Shoe Company, Richard Hajjar, pleaded guilty to filing a false tax return, wire fraud and unlawful monetary transactions in connection with embezzling more than 27 million dollars from the company.

From 2011 to 2019, when he was fired from the company, Hajjar stole 3.7 million dollars by writing checks to himself. He embezzled another 24 million dollars by transferring the money to a trust owned by the company that was dormant and making himself the trustee of the account. From this account he wrote more checks to himself and to others.

At least 15 million dollars of the stolen funds went to Bianca de la Garza, a former news anchor who runs Lucky Gal Productions. De la Garza claims she did not know the lavish gifts, vacations and investments in her company came from the embezzled funds.

From 2014 to 2019 Hajjar failed to report the proceeds from the embezzlement on his tax returns which resulted in a tax loss of \$5,112,822 to the IRS.

Hajjar faces up to 33 years in prison.

***“A fool and his money are soon parted.
The rest of us wait until tax time.”***

-Anonymous

Tax Evader Should Have Used Warning System to Save Herself IRS Troubles

Lynda Zimmermann pleaded guilty to one count of filing a false tax return and agreed to pay \$1,088,649.22 to the IRS prior to sentencing. Zimmermann and her husband owned a company in Tucson that provided lightning detection and warning systems to golf courses, parks and mines around the world.

In 2014 Zimmermann provided her accountants with gross receipts totaling \$1,322,680 when the actual number was \$2,405,276. This resulted in an underreporting of more than one million dollars on that year’s Form 1040.

Zimmermann faces up to five years in prison.

Pizzeria Owner Skims More Than Cheese From Business

The owner of Muncheez Pizzeria in Wisconsin has been charged with four counts of filing false tax returns for skimming approximately \$800,000 from his business receipts between 2012 and 2016.

Paul Vanderlinden took the cash, deposited it in his personal bank accounts and failed to report or pay taxes on the income.

Vanderlinden used a large portion of the cash to pay his employees cash wages and is also charged with failing to withhold and pay over the payroll taxes associated with those wages.

In addition to restitution, Vanderlin faces up to three years in prison for each count of filing a false tax return and five years for failing to pay over payroll taxes.

Timber Company Employee Axed After Embezzling Millions!

Susan Tranberg, who worked for the Weyerhaeuser Company for more than 40 years, was sentenced to 57 months in prison for tax evasion, wire fraud and defrauding her employer of more than 4.5 million dollars.

Tranberg's scheming began in 2004 when she created a fake timber contract between the company and a vendor she named after her mother, who was not involved in the fraud. Over the next decade Tranberg received more than 2.6 million dollars through the bogus company. In 2014 Weyerhaeuser transitioned to a different payment processing system and Tranberg submitted new documentation, including 1099 and W9 paperwork signed by her mother, who had been deceased for five years. Tranberg forged colleagues' signatures on check requests and used other colleagues' log in credentials to approve payments.

The majority of the money was used to fund a lavish lifestyle of vacations, expensive dinners, six figure wedding expenses and shopping sprees.

Tranberg was ordered to pay \$775,984 to Weyerhaeuser, \$3,805,223 to the Crime Victims Fund and \$807,033 to the IRS

Thank you!

Thanks to YOU, the word is spreading. Thanks to my clients and friends who graciously referred me to their friends, clients and relatives last month! I enjoy building my business based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you.

I just couldn't do it without you!

Creative Bookkeeper Gets Caught Double-Dipping!

An accountant in West Virginia, Misty Brotherton-Tanner, pleaded guilty to wire fraud, money laundering and tax evasion for defrauding several businesses that hired her to do their bookkeeping.

Brotherton-Tanner provided accounting services to several businesses and from 2014 until 2020 she created various schemes to defraud all of them. She transferred company funds to her personal bank accounts and moved electronic transactions between accounts in such a way as to hide the fraud under the guise of legitimate transactions.

In some cases Brotherton-Tanner listed herself as an employee of a business and collected a weekly paycheck. In other instances she created fictional workers that she added to a company's payroll, and those checks would also be deposited into her personal bank account. She also lied about paying state and federal taxes for the businesses she worked for.

Brotherton-Tanner also stole on behalf and at the request of her mother, who pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing.

She has been ordered to pay \$537,173 in restitution and faces up to 50 years in prison and a \$750,000 fine.

Man Named Boggus Files Bogus Tax Returns

Glenn Edwards Boggus was sentenced to five years in prison and ordered to pay \$495,368 in restitution to the IRS for filing false tax returns.

In 2017 Boggus filed a fraudulent income tax return that claimed a 1.14 million dollar tax refund. He submitted a false W-2 reporting \$5,647,888 in wages and \$3,333,116 in withholdings from a company that did not exist.

The IRS sent Boggus a refund for \$935,432.56, which he proceeded to deposit in his personal bank account.

As part of his plea agreement, Boggus admitted in court that he had filed previous fraudulent returns. He had claimed fraudulent tax refunds in the amount of \$33,489 for tax year 2013, \$323,765 for tax year 2014 and \$258,407 for tax year 2015.

Are You My Next Client of the Month?

Every month I choose a very special *Client of the Month*. It's my way of acknowledging good friends and saying "thanks!" to those who support me and my business with referrals, word of mouth and repeat business.

This month's *Client of the Month* is Steve Smith Trucking. He has treated us with a great deal of professional respect.

You might be my next *Client of the Month* too! Watch for your name here in an upcoming month.

Did You Know?

In the 1st century, the Roman emperor taxed urine. It was collected for the ammonia and was used to wash clothes and tan hides.

Thank you for the Kind Words...

Amy Karns thanked us for your hard work.

I'd Like to Hear From You!

If you have an IRS issue, or just want to refer a friend, relative or client, we'd love to hear from you. We can provide a no-obligation confidential consultation to help you solve your IRS problems.

philipgarnett87@gmail.com

Enter Our Trivia Contest for a Chance to Win a \$250 Transferrable Gift Certificate!

Take the Trivia Challenge to win!

Each month, I'll give you a new trivia question. The first **THREE** people who call my office with the correct answer win a free \$250 reduction on any IRS service I provide. Your prize is also transferrable, so use it for yourself, or give it to a family member or friend. Take your best guess and call me at **360-623-1375**

Memorial Day was first called Decoration Day and it originated following the civil war. What year did it become a federal holiday?

- a) 1921 c) 1890
b) 1971 d) 1950

Your IRS Questions Answered Here...

Question: *I've been getting threatening letters from the IRS saying I owe them \$43,000 for 2017 - 2019. This is beginning to affect other aspects of my life as well. What should I do?*

Answer: There are many options available to you today to resolve this. However, you need to take the first step **and call us to see what you qualify for.** Solutions may include negotiating an Offer in Compromise where we will offer a lower amount and request a release of federal tax liens. We can also ask for an Appeal of the amount owed and request the IRS re-examine your case to reduce the amount you owe.

We can request the IRS remove penalties by presenting valid reasons for removal of these. Additionally, we can offer a monthly Payment Plan that is workable within your budget. Many clients have unfiled tax returns that need to be filed first before the IRS will enter into resolution. We will prepare all delinquent returns (even if you do not have any records) for past years. This alone usually reduces the Tax, Penalty and Interest owed.

If you're being audited, we'll represent you in front of the IRS at the audit or hearing, so you do not have to appear.

We at **Philip S Garnett CPA** are experts in IRS tax problem resolution and help taxpayers with their IRS Problems every day. We know the "ins and outs" and know how to navigate the IRS maze. **There is a solution to EVERY problem.** Call us today! **360-623-1375** for a FREE, no-obligation confidential consultation!