

Taxing Times

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

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Helping Good People with IRS Problems

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SHERIFF IN GEORGIA OWES NEARLY \$75,000 IN BACK TAXES

Despite earning nearly \$100,000 per year, the sheriff has not paid federal taxes since 2011.

A South Georgia sheriff has not paid federal income taxes since 2011.

According to The Georgia Virtue, an online news site, Glynn County Sheriff Neal Jump and his wife Marie owe \$74,021.13 in back taxes.

A tax lien filed against Jump and his wife reports that he failed to file tax returns from 2012 through 2019.

Jump has worked in the public sector since he was 17 years old. He worked as a radio operator and then in the Georgia State Patrol before running for sheriff in Glynn County. He earns \$97,945 as sheriff.

When an individual runs for public office in Georgia, they must attest that they do not owe local, state or federal taxes. ■

VIRGINIA MAN FILED FALSE TAX RETURNS

A federal jury convicted a Virginia man on charges of filing false tax returns and failure to file a tax return.

According to court records, Michael J. Tiernan, 62, served as the financial officer for a number of business entities related to Ford's Colony, including Ford's Colony Realty, LLC, a large resort

community in Williamsburg, Virginia.

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For tax years 2015 and 2016, Tiernan filed federal income tax returns that falsely understated the income he received from these entities. Tiernan reported some earnings, but claimed high deductions that resulted in zero taxable income.

He faces up to seven years in prison. ■

OHIO MAN GUILTY OF FILING FALSE TAX RETURN

An Ohio man pleaded guilty to one count of filing a false tax return.

John S. Billhimer, 40, of Spring Valley, Ohio, owned and operated various businesses which conducted internet sales of aftermarket automobile parts, accessories and electronics on eBay and Amazon.

As the sole shareholder of these corporations, Billhimer was responsible for reporting any income that he personally received from these corporations on Schedule E of his tax return. For tax years 2014 through 2017, Billhimer willfully filed tax returns which fraudulently understated his tax liabilities and caused a tax loss to the United States of \$56,000.

Billhimer faces up to three years in prison. ■

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VERMONT MAN SENTENCED AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO TAX EVASION

His business brought in about \$2.8 million in gross revenue during which he did not file tax returns.

A Vermont man was sentenced to five years of probation after pleading guilty to federal income tax evasion.

Craig Cowles, 53, of Richmond, Vermont, was also ordered to pay restitution totaling about \$262,000 to the IRS for unpaid taxes. Since pleading guilty, Cowles has already paid the IRS more than \$80,000 toward this restitution obligation.

According to court records, Cowles is the owner of Cowles Excavating, an earth-moving business located in Richmond.

Between 2012 and 2017, Cowles generated approximately \$2.8 million in gross revenue from Cowles Excavating and other businesses he operated. During that period, Cowles filed no tax returns with the IRS and paid no federal income

taxes despite earning hundreds of thousands of dollars in net profits.

Cowles structured a number of transactions to avoid bank reporting requirements. He did this by breaking down checks he received from business clients into cash amounts that were slightly under \$10,000, then using additional funds from the checks to buy cashier's checks payable to himself. Cowles often converted these cashier's checks into additional cash.

Federal law prohibits anyone from structuring deposits and withdrawals that are intended to circumvent the \$10,000 cash reporting requirement. ■

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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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DOJ: CINCINNATI POLICE OFFICER DID NOT REPORT OFF-DUTY INCOME

He allegedly did not report more than \$58,000 earned from off-duty jobs at area nightclubs.

A Cincinnati police officer has been charged with failing to report tens of thousands of dollars earned from off-duty jobs at area nightclubs.

Diondre Winstead, 44, of Cincinnati, Ohio, allegedly failed to report more than \$58,000 earned from off-duty jobs in tax years 2015, 2016 and 2017.

According to court records, Winstead is charged as part of an investigation into alleged narcotics money laundering organizations operating as Cincinnati nightclubs.

Promoters allegedly use drug proceeds to pay for artists and performers at the nightclubs as a way to generate revenue that would appear to be legitimate. Winstead, a Cincinnati police officer of more than 16 years, worked off-duty jobs at the clubs and received cash payments from the promoters. He was investigated by the federal-state Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force.

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OREGON RESTAURANTEUR CHARGED WITH EVASION

An Oregon restauranteur was charged with tax evasion.

Meeraali Shaik, of Corvallis, Oregon, owned Evergreen Indian Cuisine. According to court records, Shaik attempted to evade taxes by providing his tax preparer with incomplete records and false informa-

tion regarding the cash receipts.

Shaik used a portion of the underreported cash receipts to pay mortgage payments on properties in Oregon and Arizona and made wire transfers to a bank account in India.

He faces up to five years in prison.

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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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CALL TODAY FOR A **FREE 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 free consultation.

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