



United States Attorney's Office District of Connecticut Press Release

**March 10, 2008 FORMER TORRINGTON RESIDENT SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON
FOR TAX FRAUD**

Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that KIMBERLY MARTELLO, 37, of Thomasville, Georgia, formerly of Torrington, Connecticut, was sentenced today by Senior United States District Judge Peter C. Dorsey in New Haven to four months of imprisonment, followed by three years of supervised release. Judge Dorsey also ordered MARTELLO to perform 100 hours of community service. On November 9, 2007, MARTELLO pleaded guilty to one count of filing a fraudulent income tax return and fictitious W-2 wage and tax statement for tax year 2003.

According to documents filed with the Court and statements made in court, MARTELLO electronically filed 23 false income tax returns, fabricated false W-2 wage and tax statements, and claimed false tax refunds for tax years 2002, 2003, and 2004. MARTELLO filed these false returns and claims for refunds in the names of family members, friends, and associates without their authorization, and directed the Internal Revenue Service to pay the refunds directly to her. Four of the false refund claims were filed on behalf of two persons under MARTELLO's care while she was employed as a healthcare worker for the mentally challenged.

The total amount falsely claimed by MARTELLO was \$48,591. As a result of this fraudulent scheme, MARTELLO received \$9,608, which she is required to pay back to the IRS.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation Division. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Harold H. Chen.

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