



# UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

*United States Attorney Donald W. Washington  
Western District of Louisiana*

---

United States Courthouse • 300 Fannin Street, Suite 3201 • Shreveport, Louisiana 71101-3068 • (318) 676-3600  
United States Courthouse • 800 Lafayette Street, Suite 2200 • Lafayette, Louisiana 70501-7206 • (337) 262-6618

---

For Immediate Release  
August 22, 2008

Contact: Donald W. Washington (337-262-6618)  
William J. Flanagan (318-676-3600)

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/law>

## **SHREVEPORT TAX PREPARER PLEADS GUILTY TO PREPARING FALSE RETURNS**

*Claiming taxpayers earned fictitious wages from legitimate companies*

**Shreveport, Louisiana . . . CLEMENTINE RAINEY** of Shreveport, Louisiana, a 37-year-old former tax preparer for Quick Tax in Shreveport, pleaded guilty in federal court Friday to one count of Aiding the Preparation of False Returns, United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced.

RAINEY admitted to preparing and filing false individual income tax returns for taxpayers for the years 2005 through 2007 by submitting fictitious W-2 employer and wage information.

The investigation by the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division revealed that RAINEY submitted W-2s that claimed the taxpayers earned wages from two local companies when in fact none of the taxpayers were ever employed at these companies.

The IRS identified approximately 24 taxpayers who had received refunds based on false tax

returns prepared by RAINEY, with a resulting tax loss of approximately \$128,576.00.

United States Attorney Donald W. Washington stated: “This defendant is a thief, plain and simple. She executed a scheme to steal funds from the U. S. Treasury by falsifying tax returns. We simply cannot condone such criminal behavior. This office will seek maximum punishment for this defendant and any others who are engaging in illegal tax schemes.”

Michael J. De Palma, IRS Special Agent in Charge, stated: “Criminal investigation efforts to deter refund fraud are critical to overall tax compliance. While most return preparers provide excellent service to their clients, a few unscrupulous tax preparers file false and fraudulent returns for the purpose of defrauding the government.”

RAINEY faces a maximum penalty of three years in prison or a fine of \$100,000.00, or both. She will be sentenced by U. S. District Judge S. Maurice Hicks on December 4, 2008. Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations, Shreveport Resident Agency, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Earl M. Campbell.

###