



U.S. Department of Justice

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EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: William Arce

**HIGHLAND INSURANCE AGENT PLEADS GUILTY
TO FAILING TO FILE TAX RETURNS**

William Arce, 50, of Highland, a self-employed insurance agent, pleaded guilty to two counts of willfully failing to file federal income tax returns for the year 2003 and 2004, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced.

Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Maurice Aouate, Special Agent in Charge of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division.

An August 2007 information charged Arce with five counts of failure to pay tax for the years 1998 through 2002, and the two counts of failure to file tax returns.

According to court records, from 1998 through 2004, Arce received over \$1 million in taxable income and failed to pay over \$200,000 in taxes due and owing.

“Our system depends on the voluntary compliance of citizens with our shared responsibility to pay taxes. Prosecution of individuals who intentionally conceal income and evade taxes is a vital element in maintaining public confidence in our tax system” said U.S.

Attorney Murphy.

"The majority of American taxpayers file accurate tax returns and pay their taxes timely," said Aouate. "Part of our mission is to assure those honest taxpayers that everyone pays their fair share at the time it is due and owing."

Failure to file tax returns is a misdemeanor and carries a maximum sentence of not more than a year imprisonment and a \$25,000 fine per count.

Mr. Murphy commended the special agents of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Regina R. McCullough is prosecuting the case.