



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**EVENT: Indictment**

**Defendant: Tiffany Jackson-Gooden**

**ROYAL OAK WOMAN ARRAIGNED ON TAX CHARGES**

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Tiffany Jackson-Gooden, of Royal Oak, Michigan, was arraigned today in United States District Court on an indictment charging her with five counts of willfully filing false personal tax returns, signed under penalties of perjury, and 43 counts of aiding and assisting others in the preparation of false and fraudulent tax returns, Acting United States Attorney Terrence G. Berg announced.

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

According to the indictment, Jackson-Gooden prepared and filed personal tax returns for the years 2001 through 2005 with the Internal Revenue Service, knowingly claiming false deductions that she was not entitled to claim. Some of these false deductions included fictitious job expenses, child care, and charitable gifts totaling over \$76,000. She also claimed over \$185,000 in fictitious Schedule C small business expenses.

In addition, Jackson-Gooden was charged in the indictment with aiding and assisting in the preparation of 43 false personal tax returns for other taxpayers. During the 2002 through

2005 tax years, she claimed false medical expenses, charitable gifts, job expenses, legal expenses, and gambling losses, among others, on these tax returns creating a loss to the Internal Revenue Service of over \$130,000.

Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg said, "A tax preparer owes a special duty to abide by the law, because their customers depend on their expertise. Allegations of wrongdoing by tax preparers are taken very seriously by this office."

"Every tax return preparer has a high level of responsibility, not only to their clients but to the government as well," said Aouate. "No one is entitled to an undeserved windfall and refunds should only be issued to taxpayers who are entitled to them."

Filing false tax returns, signed under penalties of perjury, and aiding and assisting in the preparation of a false tax return carries a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment and a \$100,000 fine, per count.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case was investigated by special agents of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Justin C. Letts.