



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**For Immediate Release:**

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**EVENT: Indictment**

**Defendant: Elsayed Kazem Safiedine et al**

**Bloomfield Hills Businessman and Bookkeeper Charged with  
Conspiracy to defraud the IRS**

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Elsayed Kazem Safiedine, of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, was arraigned today in United States District Court, on a one count indictment charging him with conspiracy to defraud the Internal Revenue Service, Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg announced. Mary Fawaz, of Dearborn, Michigan, was also indicated on the same charge.

Berg was joined in the announcement by Maurice Aouate, Special Agent In Charge of the Detroit Field Office of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation.

According to court records, during 1998 through 2001, Safiedine was an officer of JSC Corporation, among other entities, which was in the business of operating and leasing gasoline stations. Fawaz was the bookkeeper for JSC Corporation, along with other entities. During this time period, Safiedine and Fawaz received checks payable to JSC Corporation from Sunoco and made arrangements for third parties to negotiate and cash some of the checks, which totaled over \$845,000. Safiedine and Fawaz concealed and did not disclose these checks to the JSC Corporation accountant. As a result, the income from these checks were not reported on the corporate income tax returns filed with the IRS.

According to court records, in 1999, Safiedine and Fawaz participated in the sale of a gasoline station for \$875,000, owned by MTK & KLC Partnership. In September 1999, Fawaz attended the real estate closing and signed a Warranty Deed and Seller's Settlement Statement showing the \$875, 000 purchase price. But in April 2000, Safiedine and Fawaz met with the new owner who signed a document indicating the purchase price of the gasoline station to be \$700,000. MTK & KLC Partnership's accountant was given the information on the \$700,00 purchase, filing a U.S. Partnership Return that understated the sale price by \$175,000.

"Everybody has a duty to file accurate tax returns," said Aouate. "People who look for creative ways to evade their obligations will be investigated and prosecuted."

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

United States Attorney Berg thanked IRS Criminal Investigation for their investigation of the case. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard L. Delonis.

Note: Oakland an Wayne County Register of Deeds was the source of the residential home locations.