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**TAX PREPARER SENTENCED TO 18 MONTHS
FOR PREPARING FALSE TAX RETURNS**

GREENBELT, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today U.S. District Court Judge Deborah K. Chasanow sentenced Harold Gilbert, age 48, of Harold Gilbert, P.C., located in Oxon Hill, Maryland to 18 months in prison followed by one year of supervised release for preparing fraudulent tax returns.

According to the statement of facts, the IRS Fraud Detection Center identified Gilbert as the preparer of several fraudulent federal income tax returns. The tax returns listed abnormally high Schedule A deductions for medical and dental expenses, charitable contributions, and unreimbursed business expenses, such as job travel, job supplies, and job uniforms. As part of the plea agreement, the Defendant admitted to a tax loss of \$146,559.21.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division and the United States Attorney's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kwame J. Manley.