

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Southern District of Indiana

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ILLEGAL ALIEN IN MARYLAND SENTENCED FOR \$355,000 IN FRAUDULENT INDIANA TAX RETURNS

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana,

announced that MOHAMMAD A MAJID, 27, Gaithersburg, Maryland, was sentenced to two years imprisonment yesterday by a U.S. District Judge in Maryland following a guilty plea to wire fraud. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Indiana Department of Revenue.

From January through April, 2002, Mohammad Majid obtained approximately \$355,000 from the Indiana Department of Revenue by electronically filing numerous income tax returns using fictitious identification information. Around April 2002, the Indiana Department of Revenue identified the fraud and was able to trace all the money that had been

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paid to Majid to several bank accounts controlled by him. The Indiana Attorney General was able to freeze the accounts and subsequently recovered all the money Majid stole. Majid's case was primarily handled in Indianapolis, but was sentenced in Maryland through transfer of the federal charges to Maryland, where Majid was in custody. Majid, a foreign citizen, will likely be deported after serving his sentence.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Winfield Ong, who prosecuted the case for the government, Majid received 3 years supervised release following MAJID's imprisonment; however, Majid is to be deported following his release.

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