

MEDIA RELEASE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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LOUISVILLE MAN SENTENCED ON FRAUDULENT TAX RETURN SCHEME

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced that **KENNETH MORRISS GRIFFIN**, age 61, of Louisville, Kentucky, **was sentenced** on August 16, 2004 in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for filing bogus tax returns with the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet and the Internal Revenue Service.

Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, sentenced **Griffin** to 57 months imprisonment plus 3 years supervised release following incarceration. In addition, restitution in the amount of \$828,617.00 was ordered. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system.**

The Indictment alleged that between January 2000 and February 2001, **Griffin** used the United States mail to submit 26 false and fraudulent state income tax returns to the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet, and received over \$30,000 in income tax returns to which he was not entitled. The Indictment also alleged that **Griffin** submitted six false and fraudulent federal income tax returns to the Internal Revenue Service. As part of his guilty plea to the Indictment, **Griffin** admitted that between January, 1998 and May,

2001, the defendant engaged in a scheme to defraud the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the United States Treasury out of money in the form of tax return checks. To carry out the scheme, **Griffin** prepared and filed a series of fraudulent and fictitious Kentucky state income tax returns and obtained refund checks for those returns. **Griffin** also made and presented to the Internal Revenue Service false claims upon and against the United States Treasury by preparing and filing a series of fraudulent and fictitious Federal income tax returns, and obtained refund checks from those returns throughout the year 2002. **Griffin** also admitted that he prepared and filed on other occasions fraudulent and fictitious income tax returns in Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island and Utah, and obtained income tax refund checks from those states during the years 2002 and 2003. The defendant used the United States mail to carry out the scheme to defraud.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas W. Dyke, and was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Postal Inspection service, the Internal Revenue Service, the Louisville Metro Police Department, the Kentucky State Police Central Forensic Laboratory, and the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet.

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