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DALLAS, TEXAS
OCTOBER 8, 2004

**SAN ANGELO TAX PREPARER SENTENCED
TO 30 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON**

United States Attorney Richard B. Roper announced that San Angelo, Texas, resident, Alfredo Holguin Hinojosa, age 59, was sentenced today by the Honorable Sam R. Cummings, United States District Judge, to 30 months imprisonment and ordered to pay \$250,000 restitution to the Internal Revenue Service. Hinojosa was also ordered to pay \$25,000 cost of prosecution. Judge Cummings ordered that Hinojosa surrender to the Bureau of Prisons on November 12, 2004.

In June, Hinojosa pled guilty to a one count Information charging tax fraud and false statements. From 1998 through 2002, Hinojosa was the owner of Hinojosa Bookkeeping and Tax Service in San Angelo.

In documents filed in Court, Hinojosa admitted that from January 1999 to April 2003, he prepared false and fraudulent federal income tax returns for people in the local community, claiming \$250,000 in false Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and/or other fraudulent tax refunds. The returns Hinojosa prepared included false statements regarding the taxpayers' marital filing status, false statements that the taxpayers had foster children and/or had Schedule C business income and losses. Hinojosa used these false statements to provide eligibility for taxpayers to qualify for the EITC. Hinojosa would have clients supply their information on a form that was filled out either by the client or by the receptionist. The information that was obtained from the client was later modified and falsified by Hinojosa to generate a false tax return and false refund.

U.S. Attorney Roper praised the investigative efforts of the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Paulina Jacobo.

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