



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**For Immediate Release**

April 14, 2003

**TAX PREPARER INDICTED ON FALSE INCOME TAX CHARGES**

**TAMPA** – United States Attorney Paul I. Perez and John S. Fowler, Special Agent in Charge of the Tampa Field Office of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations, announced today that LEE SCOTT ROBERTS, age 62, of Kodiak Alaska, was indicted on nine counts of filing false claims in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 287, relating to false claims submitted to the government for income tax refunds. Each count carries a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

The IRS reminds taxpayers to:

- Avoid preparers who claim they can obtain a larger refund than other preparers.
- Use a tax professional who signs your return and provides you with a copy.
- Never sign a blank income tax return.
- Remember, you are responsible for what appears on your return; so review the return, and ask questions if you aren't sure about the amounts.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Jeffrey J. DeFuoco and Jay L. Hoffer.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

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