



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TAX PREPARER PLEADS GUILTY TO PREPARING FALSE RETURNS

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on September 2, 2003, GEORGE ROA RUIZ, d/o/b 7/29/50, of Phoenix, Arizona pled guilty to one count of Aiding and Abetting the Preparation of a False Tax Return with the Internal Revenue Service, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7206(2). Ruiz was charged with 21 counts of Aiding and Abetting the Preparation of False Returns and assisting 10 different sets of clients between 1999 and 2000. Following a civil audit of Ruiz's clients' returns, it was determined that Ruiz was responsible for over \$1,238,264.00 in tax losses to the government. Ruiz, as part of his plea agreement, agreed to repay those sums which otherwise cannot be collected from his client taxpayers.

RUIZ conducted his fraudulent scheme through his tax preparation business, RUIZ ACCOUNTING SERVICES, located in Phoenix, Arizona. RUIZ accomplished his scheme by generating and fabricating false Schedule A Itemized Deductions, false Form 2106 Employees Business Expenses, false Schedule D losses for Personal Bad Debt, false Form 2441 Child and Dependent Care Expenses, and false

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Form 8863 Education Credits. Defendant RUIZ's preparation of false income tax returns resulted in his clients receiving sizeable income tax refunds to which they were not entitled.

A conviction for Aiding and Assisting in the Preparation of a False Tax Return carries a maximum penalty of three years incarceration, a \$100,000 fine, or both.

Sentencing is set before Judge Roslyn O. Silver on November 17, 2003.

This investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by Special Agents of the Phoenix Field Office of IRS Criminal Investigation. The prosecution is being handled by Ashley Adams-Feldman, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-376-PHX-ROS
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