

PRESS RELEASE

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TWO CHARGED FOR FALSE TAX RETURN

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on July 3, 2002, a federal grand jury at Phoenix, Arizona, returned a two count indictment against Jose A. Castillo, 48 and Rosa M. Castillo, 47, of Yuma, Arizona.

The federal indictment charges Jose and Rosa Castillo in Count 1, with violating Title 26 of the United States Code, Section § 7206(1), for Filing a False Individual Income Tax Return for the year 1997, and in Count 2 charges Jose Castillo with violating Title 18 of the United States Code, Section § 1512(b)(3), for Tampering with a Witness.

A conviction for Filing a False Return carries a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment, and a fine of \$100,000 or both. A conviction for Tampering with a Witness carries a maximum penalty of ten years imprisonment, and a fine of \$250,000, or both.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigations Division.

The prosecution is being handled by Michael Morrissey Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

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