



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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**FORMER ROCKLAND TAX PREPARER PLEADS GUILTY
IN FEDERAL INCOME TAX FRAUD CASE**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that GLEN ROBINS, a tax preparer formerly in the employ of his co-defendant DUANE HOWELL, pleaded guilty today in White Plains federal court to conspiring to obstruct the Internal Revenue Service and to prepare scores of false and fraudulent income tax returns for individuals and partnerships.

During his guilty plea allocution before United States Magistrate Judge MARK D. FOX, ROBINS admitted that he had conspired to falsify expenses on the partnership returns of clients of HOWELL's tax preparation firm, which was originally located in West Nyack, Rockland County. These fictitious expenses created losses for the partnerships, and those losses flowed through to the returns of the individual clients, thereby fraudulently reducing their tax liability.

ROBINS also admitted that he had conspired to take fraudulent deductions, for contributions to self-employment retirement plans, on the returns of individual clients. Finally, ROBINS admitted submitting false tax returns for himself and his own partnerships.

According to the Indictment, HOWELL and ROBINS generated approximately \$9 million in fraudulent expenses on the partnership returns in question, and approximately \$900,000 in fraudulent deductions for contributions towards self-employment

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retirement plans that were taken on the individual tax returns of their clients.

On the conspiracy charge to which he pleaded, ROBINS - aged 46, of Princeton, New Jersey - faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense. ROBINS also may be ordered to pay up to \$1.2 million in restitution. He will be sentenced before United States District Judge CHARLES L. BRIEANT on May 30, 2007. HOWELL's case is pending and no trial date has been set.

Mr. GARCIA praised the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service for its efforts during the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys ELLIOTT B. JACOBSON and BRENT S. WIBLE are in charge of the prosecution.

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