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## FT. MYERS TAX PREPARER ARRESTED ON TAX CHARGES

Fort Myers, Florida - United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill today announced the unsealing of an indictment charging Ronald St. Facile, a 45 year old tax preparer doing business as Ron's Tax Accounting and Financial Services, Inc., in Naples, Florida. The indictment charges St. Facile with 42 counts of aiding and assisting in the preparation of 42 Federal Income Tax returns filed on behalf of 17 different taxpayers involving tax years 2001 through 2005, each of which contained materially false information. St. Facile was arrested this morning and will have his initial appearance at 1:30 pm in Fort Myers. If convicted, St. Facile faces up to three years of imprisonment and a fine \$100,000, as to each count.

According to the indictment, St. Facile prepared tax returns that claimed false items such as, as medical expenses, employee business expenses, charitable contributions, education credits, as well as rental income and related expenses.

The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert Barclift.

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 until, and unless, proven guilty.