



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of Wisconsin*

517 East Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53202

NEWS RELEASE

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Two Milwaukee men charged with filing 100 false income tax claims

United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic announced that a federal grand jury in the Eastern District of Wisconsin last month returned a 26 - count federal indictment charging Prince Rashada, 39, of Milwaukee and Kenneth Kenitz, 39, of Milwaukee with Conspiracy to Defraud the United States, and Filing False Claims for Income Tax Refunds in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2, 286, and 287.

According to the indictment, between March 2005 and January 2007, the defendants caused more than 100 false federal income tax returns to be filed with the Internal Revenue Service, falsely claiming federal income tax refunds of more than \$400,000. The defendants worked together to defraud the United States by recruiting others to file fraudulent federal income tax returns claiming wages that were never earned. The recruited individuals typically did not work at all in the tax year in which they filed for an income tax return from the IRS.

The indictment further states that fraudulent wages reported on the federal tax return ranged from \$11,000 to \$16,000, with an average refund of \$3,800. The defendants are alleged to having kept approximately \$1,000 from each fraudulent income tax return they prepared.

The case was investigated by the Criminal Division of the Internal Revenue Service and has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Lisa Wesley. If convicted of these two charges both defendants face a maximum of fifteen years in prison and a fine up to \$250,000.

It should be noted that an indictment is merely the formal method of charging an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government establishes his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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