



Department of Justice

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INDIANAPOLIS WOMAN SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS FOR FALSE TAX REFUND SCHEME

PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that TINISHA ROBINSON, 32, Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 24 months imprisonment today by Chief Judge David F. Hamilton, U.S. District Court, following her guilty plea to submitting false claims to the United States Internal Revenue Service. This case was the result of a 3-year investigation by the Internal Revenue Service.

From January, 2003 through May, 2007, ROBINSON paid people in the Indianapolis area for use of their social security numbers and addresses. She then filled out a tax return in the person's name with false W-2's and other documentation, and filed that with the IRS, claiming a refund due, usually for about \$2,000. When the refund check arrived, the person would sign it over to ROBINSON for a nominal fee of \$200 to \$300.

About \$67,000 of these fraudulent refunds were traced directly into bank accounts in ROBINSON's name. Twenty-nine returns and accompanying W-2's were false, and many of the people used as conduits for the false return scheme corroborated the details of the scheme. ROBINSON was interviewed and admitted her role in the fraud.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Winfield D. Ong, who prosecuted the case for the government, Chief Judge Hamilton also imposed 3 years supervised release following ROBINSON's release from imprisonment. During the period of supervised release, ROBINSON was ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$67,127.

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