# NEWS RELEASE



## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego, California

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt

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For Immediate Release

# Former President of xélan, Inc. Charged With Filing False Individual Income Tax Returns

#### NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - December 16, 2008

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced today that a federal grand jury sitting in San Diego handed up an indictment charging former xélan, Inc. president Lewis Donald Guess with two counts of filing false income tax returns. According to court documents, Guess was the President of xélan, Inc., a director of the xélan Foundation, and the 100% owner of Pyramidal Funding Systems, Inc. d.b.a. xélan Insurance Services.

The indictment alleges that Guess willfully signed and filed false and fraudulent U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns for the calender years 2001 and 2002. According to the indictment, Guess falsely stated that he donated \$800,000 worth of stock in Pyramidal Funding Systems to the xélan Foundation in the year 2001, and that he was entitled to claim itemized deductions for this donation on his individual tax returns for the years 2001 and 2002.

### **DEFENDANT**

Case Number: 08cr4341JM

Lewis Donald Guess

## **SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Two Counts - Filing False Income Tax Returns in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7206(1) Maximum penalty is three years in prison and fine not to exceed \$100,000

### **AGENCY**

Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division