



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

February 6, 2004

DEFENDANT SENTENCED FOR ROLE IN TAX EVASION SCHEME

_____ Tampa - On February 6, 2004, United States District Judge Richard A. Lazzara, sitting in Tampa, Florida, sentenced MICHAEL J. MARICLE, age 48, of Palm Harbor, Florida, to a term of imprisonment of thirty (30) months upon his conviction of two counts of aiding in the preparation and filing of false income tax returns, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7206(2).

MARICLE, a Certified Public Accountant in Clearwater, Florida, pled guilty to those two charges on March 5, 2003. He pled guilty to assisting two different tax payer clients in filing false income tax returns which disguised large sums of income which those tax payers had earned in 1998. MARICLE had prepared their tax returns in connection with his role as a promoter of the AEGIS system, a scheme which entailed the use of abusive trusts in order to hide income and evade the payment of income taxes.

In addition to his sentence of imprisonment, MARICLE was ordered to assist the Internal Revenue Service in the computation and collection of all taxes due and owing on the part of his two clients.

This case was prosecuted by Jay L. Hoffer, Assistant United States Attorney, Deputy Chief, Special Prosecutions Section of the Tampa Division. This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division.____
