



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Texas

---

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

DATE: September 15, 2004

*Contact: Davilyn Brackin*

Public Affairs Specialist  
(409) 839-2538

## **STATE PRISON INMATE SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR TAX SCAM**

(Beaumont, Texas) A 44-year-old Texas inmate has been sentenced to nine months in federal prison for a tax fraud scheme he operated while incarcerated. **EARL G. BROUSSARD, JR.**, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Marcia Crone for mail fraud. Judge Crone ordered the sentence to run consecutive to the state sentence Broussard is currently serving.

According to information prosecutors presented in court, from 1999 to 2003, Broussard participated in a tax scheme to file fraudulent state tax returns in order to claim refunds to which he was not entitled. The fraudulent returns included fabricated and altered W-2 forms which indicated Broussard had earned wages while he was actually incarcerated at the Stiles Unit in Jefferson County. Although many of the tax refund checks were intercepted by state prison staff, Broussard received approximately \$3,541 in tax refunds from New Jersey. Broussard was indicted by a federal grand jury in March of 2004, and pleaded guilty in June of 2004.

--more--

Two other state prison inmates were sentenced in July by Judge Crone for their participation in a similar scheme. **GARY DEWAYNE DENNINGTON**, 43, received 37 months in federal prison and **VAUGHN DUWAYNE HARMAN, III**, 38, received 12 months imprisonment.

The cases were investigated by the Beaumont office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and the Departments of Revenue for the states of Missouri, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Rawls prosecuted the cases.

###