



Department of Justice

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PROFESSIONAL GOLFER CHARGED WITH INCOME TAX VIOLATIONS

Orlando, Florida - United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton today announced the filing of an Information against JIMMIE L. THORPE, a/k/a Jim Thorpe, a 59-year-old resident of Heathrow, Florida. THORPE faces four counts of failure to file an income tax return and three counts of failing to pay income taxes. The maximum penalty for the offenses is seven years' imprisonment, a \$3.2 million fine, and seven years of supervised release. The court will issue THORPE a notice to appear in the coming weeks.

According to the Information, THORPE was a professional golfer on the Professional Golf Association (PGA) Champions Tour, formerly known as the PGA Senior Tour. THORPE earned income playing in PGA events and from various endorsements. THORPE also was the sole officer and director of a Florida corporation known as JLT, Inc. He is alleged to have failed to timely file his personal income tax returns for the years 2002, 2003, and 2004; failed to timely file the corporate income tax return for JLT, Inc., for the year 2003; and failed to pay his personal income taxes for the years 2002, 2003, and 2004. The total allegedly unpaid income tax for the three years is approximately \$1.6 million.

An information is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

This case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney I. Randall Gold.