

Office of the United States Attorney District of Arizona

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 6, 2001 For Information Contact Public Affairs Mike Johns (602) 514-7566

CHANDLER CONTRACTOR SENTENCED TO 13 MONTHS FOR FILING FALSE TAX RETURN

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced today that TOMMY WOODS, age 50, owner of W.C. Contracting, Inc., a Chandler construction company employing as many as 100 individuals, was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge Paul G. Rosenblatt to 13 months imprisonment and fined \$30,000 for filing a false 1995 federal income tax return, a felony, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7206(1).

According to the plea agreement filed June 25, 2001, TOMMY WOODS used his corporation, W.C. Contracting, Inc. in 1994 and 1995 to pay for personal expenses, which he disguised as business expenses of the corporation. WOODS also paid for personal investments out of his corporation's money market account, and failed to report other income. As a result, WOODS failed to report more than \$1 million in income for 1994 and 1995, and understated his taxes by at least \$317,000.

WOODS faced a maximum sentence of three years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both, for filing this false tax return.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Phoenix Field Office of IRS Criminal Investigation, and the prosecution was handled by Stephen G. Winerip, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

RELEASE NUMBER: 2001-138