

# Tax Resolution Times

*“Read About Taxpayers with IRS Problems & Find Out How to Solve Them”*



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## **Ain't No Sunshine Where She's Going!**

Kathryn Pocock, the owner of Sunshine Cleaners, a home cleaning service in Connecticut, was sentenced to one year and one day in prison, plus a year of supervised release, for tax evasion.

Pocock started the company in 1991, and from 2015 to 2019 withdrew approximately \$855,000 from the business, that she did not report on her tax returns. She cashed numerous checks that were made out to the business, and deposited business checks into her personal accounts. She also paid her employees under the table, in cash, to avoid paying payroll taxes owed to the state.

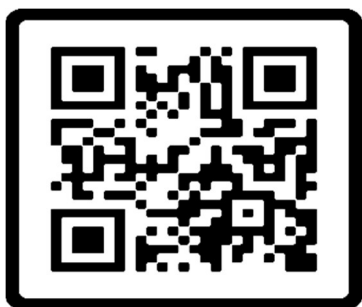
Pocock was methodical as she covered up her tracks, providing her tax preparer with false spreadsheets and documentation that significantly understated the business income and over-inflated employee related expenses.

In addition to her prison sentence, Pocock was ordered to pay restitution of \$180,451 to the IRS and \$33,514 to the state of Connecticut.

## **Foundation Director Directs Scholarship Money for Students to his Own Bank Account**

Marion Ledford, a director for the Robert W. Hamilton Foundation, a New Mexico non-profit that provides scholarships to high school graduates, was sentenced to 18 months in prison for embezzling \$1,785,300 from the organization.

Ledford controlled the foundation's finances without oversight, and for five years wrote himself personal checks from the organization. He was a partner in a CPA firm that filed his taxes and he failed to report the embezzled funds as income. He was ordered to pay restitution to the foundation and \$629,289 to the IRS.



### Thank you for the Kind Words...

“Helen Ogbu performed an extraordinary job getting my past due taxes reduced from \$400,000 to \$3,057. Ms. Ogbu filed papers with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), followed up on any IRS inquiries and negotiated the lowest amount of payment with the IRS.

Ms. Ogbu was extremely professional and handled every portion of this process in an outstanding way. A savings of this type of money is impossible, but Ms. Ogbu was able to logistically work this situation from start to finish, in a reasonable amount of time. I am grateful to Ms. Ogbu for her professionalism and accounting expertise.

She really spared me from a great financial burden that was left when my business was closed. I highly recommend Ms. Helen Ogbu for any and all tax services.”

-Mr. Johnson

“Ms.Helen Ogbu solved my back taxes problems quickly and professional I had a great amount of tax credit and I ended up only paying about 10% of that credit.Helen know just what to do thank you very very much.”

-David Josie

“Helen has been great asset to my law firm. She is honest, easy to reach, and friendly. I appreciate her attention to detail and professionalism.”

-Michael Plummer

## *No Bones About It – Doctor and Wife Headed to Jail!*

James Rice, an orthopedic surgeon, and his wife Susan, who managed their medical practice, were sentenced to five years in prison for failing to file tax returns, evading taxes, and failure to pay over employment taxes.

From 2007 to 2016 the couple transferred one million dollars from the practice to other accounts they controlled, including personal bank accounts and a business account for a truffle company Susan Rice owned. The couple used their business bank accounts to pay for personal expenses, including a country club membership and dog kennel boarding.

The Rices also withheld almost \$580,000 in payroll taxes from their employees and used the funds for personal use. From 2014 to 2016 they filed no income tax returns.

The couple was ordered to pay approximately 2.4 million dollars to the government in in personal, corporate, and employment taxes.

# Thank you!

Thanks to YOU, the word is spreading. Thanks to my clients and friends who graciously referred me to their friends, clients and relatives last month! I enjoy building my business based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you.

I just couldn't do it without you!

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## **Med Spa Owner Facing Prison for Filing Fraudulent Income Tax Returns!**

Roxanne Khadem, the owner of several med spas, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit health care fraud and subscribing to a false income tax return.

Khadem's spas offered customers cosmetic procedures such as botox injections, facials and hair removal, none of which were covered by insurance. Khadem and her staff, however, offered customers the opportunity to earn credits for free services if they gave the spa their health insurance information. The spa then billed insurance companies for covered services they weren't providing and would in turn give their customers free services based on how much they had collected from their insurance company.

From 2012 to 2016 insurance companies paid out \$1,361,200 in fraudulent claims and investigators believe the total could be as high as \$7,991,406.

Khadem failed to report this income on her tax returns for 2013, 2014 and 2015, for a total tax loss to the IRS of \$453,451.

Khadem faces a maximum sentence of 13 years in prison as well as restitution.

## ***Scam Artist Has Multiple Identities, not Personalities***

Roosevelt Fernandez pleaded guilty to wire fraud and identity theft in connection to fraud schemes involving false tax returns and Covid-19 relief funds.

The Boston businessman used multiple identities to file approximately 40 false tax returns. On many of the returns he included fraudulent W-2 forms he had made up. The false returns totaled over \$620,000 in requested funds.

Fernandez also applied for 10 Economic Injury Disaster Loans in his name and in the names of entities he controlled. He included false tax filings to support his applications. He received one loan for \$124,900 and proceeded to withdraw more than \$80,000 in cash within two weeks of receiving the money. A second loan was deposited into the same account for \$149,900.

He faces up to 20 years in prison for wire fraud and a mandatory sentence of two years for identity theft, fines up to \$500,000.

### ***Are You My Next Client of the Month?***

Every month I choose a very special *Client of the Month*. It's my way of acknowledging good friends and saying "thanks!" to those who support me and my business with referrals, word of mouth and repeat business.

You might be my next *Client of the Month* too! Watch for your name here in an upcoming month.

#### **Question:**

What does the pessimistic accountant think?

#### **Answer:**

It's accrual world!

**Thank you for the Kind Words...**

‘Helen is AWESOME. I am a customer of Helen Ogbu's Maryland Tax Resolution Services and am very, very, very happy with the results. Helen has the skills and experience to negotiate on my behalf with the IRS. The national chain that I contacted wanted a lot (\$\$\$\$\$) of money to present my case. For a much more reasonable amount (\$\$\$\$), Helen processed my Offer In Compromise from start to finish. The final resolution was a one time payment to IRS that was much more affordable. Helen has my highest recommendation.’

-Robert Toole

“This is a boutique tax firm that is not too small to handle incredibly large matters or too big to take the personal care in handling smaller matters. Whether the matter is a personal tax return or a business tax matter with the IRS, this tax firm is a jewel in the Nile. I stake my entire reputation on the integrity, professionalism and value of this firm. Only wish I have known about it sooner.”

-Donnell McNeil

**I'd Like to Hear From You!**

If you have an IRS issue, or just want to refer a friend, relative or client, we'd love to hear from you. We can provide a no-obligation confidential consultation to help you solve your IRS problems.

## **Enter Our Trivia Contest for a Chance to Win a \$100 Transferrable Gift Certificate!**

### *Take the Trivia Challenge to win!*

Each month, I'll give you a new trivia question. The first **TWO** people who call my office with the correct answer win a free \$100 reduction on any IRS service I provide. Your prize is also transferrable, so use it for yourself, or give it to a family member or friend. Take your best guess and call me at **(240) 206-8467**

This month's question is....

#### **Which country consumes the most chocolate per capita?**

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| a) United States | c) Switzerland |
| b) Japan         | d) Costa Rica  |

*Call today at (240) 206-8467*

### **Your IRS Questions Answered Here...**

**Question:** *I owe 113,000 to the IRS for back taxes. I'm constantly getting threatening letters from them. This has become a big problem in all areas of my life that I have no idea how to approach it. Can you help me?*

**Answer:** For what it's worth, take some comfort in knowing that you are not alone. There are tens of millions of Americans in similar situations, dealing with IRS debt hanging over their heads and concerned about how it will affect their future.

The good news is: You have options. Once you and your tax resolution specialist has analyzed your current financial situation, the next step is to negotiate a resolution with the IRS. You will most likely be looking at one of two options – An Offer in Compromise or an Installment Agreement Payment Plan.

The Offer in Compromise (OIC) was created for people who owe a substantial amount to the IRS but, for whatever reason, are unable to pay their tax debt off, even over time. The OIC allows taxpayers to negotiate a settlement amount that will take care of the entire tax debt once and for all. This settlement agreement can lower the tax debt by a significant amount, however there are strict eligibility requirements.

If you do not qualify for the OIC you're probably eligible for an Installment Agreement, which allows you to pay off your debt over time by making manageable monthly payments, much like a commercial installment loan. However, as simple as this may sound, do not attempt to do this, or the OIC, yourself. You will get steamrolled and bullied by the IRS.

We at Maryland Tax Resolution, LLC are experts at navigating the IRS maze and will customize a resolution plan to fit your individual needs to help you permanently solve your IRS Problems. Call us today at **(240) 206-8467**