



# Tax Resolution Times

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



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## **Owner of Smart Grass Not So Smart Gets Caught Hiding \$9 Million From IRS**

Craig Voyton, the owner of an artificial turf company in California, pleaded guilty for failing to report nearly nine million dollars in income.

Between 2016 and 2020, Voyton’s company, Smart Grass, grossed more than 1.5 million dollars a year, and Voyton attempted to hide all of it from the IRS. Voyton admitted to providing customers, including a local school, with IRS Form W-9 with false tax identification numbers, so payments made to the company could not be tracked to him.

During this time he made more than \$63,000 in transfers to the Coinbase cryptocurrency exchange from his business bank account, and used more than \$500,000 in company funds to buy property in Nevada and Mexico. Voyton did not report \$8,926,333 in income, which resulted in a loss of \$946,479 to the IRS. He has agreed to pay back all the taxes he owes, plus interest and an additional 75% fraud penalty before he is sentenced.

## **Parts Manager Manages a Scam Through eBay**

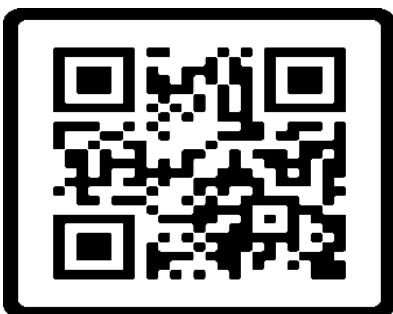
The parts manager for a multi-state business, John Cox, was sentenced to 36 months in prison for wire fraud, filing a false tax return and failing to file a tax return.

From 2018 to 2020 Cox ordered parts and products that the business did not need, using his employer’s funds, in order to sell them on eBay. The parts included HVAC units and LED light display kits.

Cox arranged payments for the stolen parts via PayPal and failed to disclose to potential buyers that the products were stolen, which is a violation of eBay’s user agreement.

He sold approximately 400 stolen items on eBay, costing his employer \$431,557.61.

Cox failed to report any of the income from the stolen goods on his 2018 tax return, and did not file returns for 2019 and 2020. The tax loss to the IRS was \$106,690.



## 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 debt and I ended up only paying about 10% of that debt. 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

# This Tax Evader’s Rolex Comes In Handy While He Counts Down His Time in Prison

Christopher Harrison, the majority owner of a human resources and insurance company in North Carolina, was sentenced to 18 months in prison for failing to report more than 25 million dollars in income.

Harrison became CFO and majority owner of EbenConcepts in 2012, with an annual salary of \$300,000. Almost immediately, with the help of the company controller, he began purchasing personal items that were classified as business expenses, mostly under travel and office. Purchases included an \$85,000 Tiffany bracelet, a \$145,000 Rolex watch, and a \$100,000 Cartier diamond necklace. In total he spent 2.2 million dollars in jewelry over a four year period. All the jewelry was uninsured to avoid detection and, per court records, his wife has refused to return any of it. The company also paid \$300,000 for a pool at Harrison’s home.

As the expenses were being investigated, Harrison filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy, claiming he didn’t realize he owed millions to the IRS for his personal purchases. The same month he converted 3.46 million American Express Platinum Card points for his personal use.

In addition to the prison sentence, Harrison was ordered to pay 4.6 million dollars in restitution to the IRS.

## 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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## Non-Profit Manager Profits Herself with Company Funds

Rowena Scott was convicted of wire fraud, credit card fraud, filing false tax returns and failing to file tax returns in connection with the non-profit where she worked.

From 2010 to 2014, Scott was the president of the board of directors and the manager of Park Southern Neighborhood Corporation, an organization that owned and operated an apartment complex in Washington DC that provided safe and affordable housing for underhoused and underprivileged residents.

Scott collected a salary of \$60,000 a year and embezzled \$125,000. She also used another \$30,000 in funds from the organization for personal, unauthorized purchases. She lived in the building rent free and used the common rooms free of charge to operate a ministry. Between February and May of 2014 Scott deposited at least 50 checks made out to herself from the organization into her personal bank account, made more than 60 cash withdrawals from bank tellers and more than 100 ATM visits. She claimed that she used the cash from the ATM withdrawals to pay homeless people to evict residents.

The indictment included 46 credit card charges from businesses such as Nordstrom Rack, Shoe Parlor, Modern Wigs and almost \$2000 at the Chesapeake Beach Resort & Spa, which Scott claimed she and at least one other person went, “to get away from the negativity and to regroup.”

Scott also failed to report any of her income – both her salary and the stolen funds, on her tax returns. She faces up to 20 years in prison and restitution to the non-profit and to the IRS.

### *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.

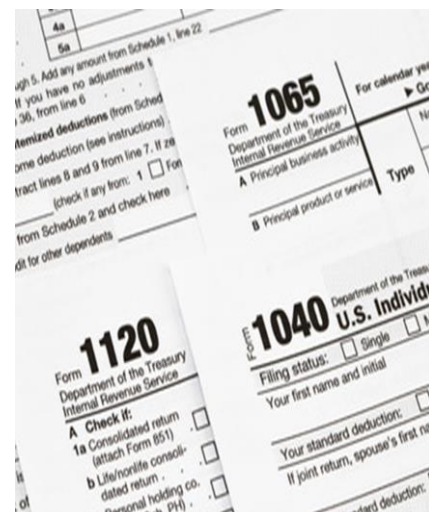
### **Thank you for the Kind Words...**

“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 alot (\$\$\$\$\$) 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**



**Did You Know?**

*In 1795 Great Britain created the Duty on Hair Powder Act. Anyone wishing to use hair powder had to get a certificate from a stamp office and pay an annual fee of one guinea (the equivalent of 100 pounds today). The tax was used to fund government programs, and was repealed in 1869.*

**Question**

Ever wonder how Form 1040 got its name?

**Answer**

For every \$50 you earn, you get \$10, they get \$40

**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.



MARYLAND TAX RESOLUTION, LLC  
IRS Tax Problem Solver

## **Enter Our Trivia Contest for a Chance to Win a \$50 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 **\$50** 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**. (Valid for use once (1) per person, per twelve (12) months.)

This month's question is....

**What is the highest grossing musical of all time?**

- a) Cats                      c) Wicked  
b) Lion King                d) Hello Dolly

**Call today at (240) 206-8467**

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

**Question:** *I've heard that the IRS will take a reduced monthly payment amount to settle my tax debt in full. Is that true?*

**Answer:** This is what is referred to as a monthly Installment Agreement Payment Plan. The IRS has several debt settlement options but it's important to act before they garnish your paycheck and/or levy your bank account.

There are several types of Installment Agreements. One of them, is called the "Partial Pay Installment Agreement" (PPIA) where it's possible to settle your outstanding balance owed the IRS for less. It's based on your monthly disposable income and how much time remains on the 10-year collection statute expiration date. The IRS can only collect on a debt for 10 years, so the older your IRS tax debt is, the more likely you may be able to a PPIA to settle it. The IRS does not "advertise" this option for obvious reasons. There are strict eligibility requirements that must be met, so the first step is to call us to see if you qualify.

We know how to navigate the IRS maze and know the "ins and outs" of the law as that is what we do every day. As a matter of fact, once we're retained, you'll never have to meet or speak with the IRS. We take care of all of that because we know that the worst thing you can do is represent yourself. That's like going to court without a lawyer. The IRS does not have your best interests at heart.

We at Maryland Tax Resolution, LLC are experts in IRS tax problem resolution and help taxpayers with their IRS Problems every day. **There is a solution to EVERY problem.** Call us today! **(240) 206-8467** for a FREE confidential consultation