

Tax Resolution Times

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



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Personal Injury Attorney Adds Insult to Injury – Scams a Dozen Clients...Page 1

Sin City Tax Preparer Guilty as Sin... Page 1

Testimonials...Page 2

Car Salesman Can't Avoid Jail the Way He Avoided Taxes...Page 2

Thank You!...Page 2

Thousands of Checks and 192 Million Dollars Later – Everyone Gets Caught...Page 3

Testimonials Con't...Page 3

Client of the Month...Page 3

Did You Know...Page 4

Trivia Contest...Page 4

IRS Question Answered...Page 4

Personal Injury Attorney Adds Insult to Injury by Pocketing \$400k of Clients Money

A Kentucky lawyer, Andrew Clooney, and his wife, Christel Clooney, pleaded guilty to wire fraud and failure to pay taxes.

Clooney was a personal injury attorney through the Clooney Law Office, and his wife was the office manager. From 2016 to 2018 the Clooneys used funds that belonged to their clients for personal use.

Clooney settled cases for a dozen clients worth more than \$400,000, but when the payments came in he failed to tell his clients, and he and his wife pocketed the money. Alex White, an attorney for many of Clooney's victims, stated that, "Clooney targeted people with poor English skills so their complaints wouldn't be believed, or chalked up to a misunderstanding."

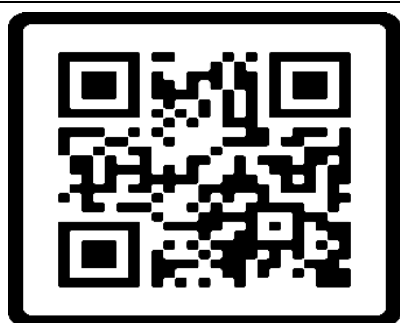
The Clooneys also failed to file a tax return in 2016 despite earning approximately \$426,098 in income and owing approximately \$106,140 in federal income taxes.

The Clooneys each face a maximum sentence of 21 years in prison, as well as restitution.

Sin City Tax Preparer Guilty as Sin!

Maria Mendoza, a Las Vegas tax preparer, was sentenced to three years in prison for filing more than 700 fraudulent tax returns and causing the IRS a loss of 1.2 million dollars.

Mendoza used false and inflated deductions and credits on her clients' tax returns, in addition to using her clients' personal identifying information to obtain a larger refund on her own returns. She claimed more than three million dollars in refunds. She also diverted more than \$500,000 from her clients' refunds into her own bank accounts from 2013 to 2017. While on pretrial release she was arrested with a stolen passport, drivers licenses and credit cards, along with forged copies of checks.



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

Car Salesman Can't Avoid Jail the Way he Avoided Taxes

Jonathan Wichman was sentenced to 24 months in prison for evading income taxes for seven years, despite making more than 2.3 million dollars in wages during that time.

Beginning in 2014 Whitman stopped filing tax returns, despite receiving multiple notices from the IRS. In 2019, he filed returns for 2014 through 2018, but did not make any payments.

In October of 2018, Wichman accessed his employer's online payroll system and changed his withholdings so that no federal income taxes or employment taxes were withheld from his 2019 and 2020 wages. He also did not file tax returns for those two years.

During the trial, Wichman claimed that he didn't have the money to pay his past due taxes, but it was revealed that between 2018 and 2021 Wichman made cash transactions at several casinos and banks totaling more than a million dollars. From 2014 to 2022 he spent more than \$513,000 on luxury cars, a travel trailer and a Florida vacation.

Wichman evaded \$276,244 in income taxes owed to the IRS and the state of Arkansas. In addition to the prison sentence, he was ordered to pay \$448,592 in restitution, which included penalties and interest.

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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Thousands of Checks and \$192,000,000 Dollars Later Everyone Gets Caught

The owner of an Oregon construction company, Melesio Gomez-Rivera, was sentenced to 30 months in prison and ordered to pay 29.9 million dollars in restitution to the IRS for his part in a multi-year scheme to avoid payroll and income taxes on the wages of construction workers.

From 2014 to 2017 Gomez-Rivera, the owner of Novatos Construction, worked in conjunction with other construction company owners, and David Katz, the owner of Check Cash Pacific, a check cashing business with multiple locations in Oregon and Washington state, to cash checks with the purpose of evading federal and payroll taxes.

Gomez-Rivera and the other construction company owners cashed thousands of checks totaling approximately 192 million dollars. They used the cash to pay construction workers under the table and filed false personal and business tax returns. Their actions caused a combined employment and individual income tax loss of 68 million dollars.

Gomez-Rivera is the first of six co-conspirators to plead guilty. The others in the case are all awaiting a jury trial that is scheduled to begin in December.

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.

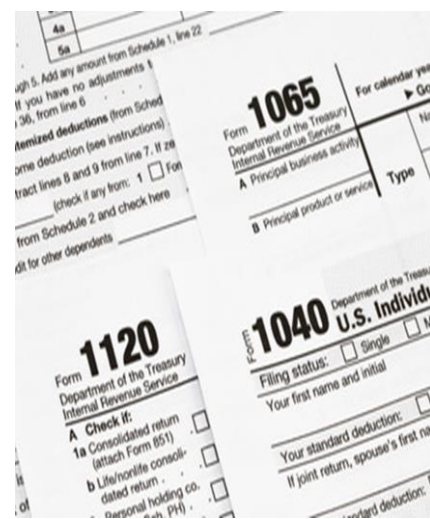
Thank you for the Kind Words...

"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?

The state of Maryland has a Flush Tax, a \$60 annual fee that generates 60-70 million dollars a year to upgrade the state's 66 major treatment plants.

These upgrades have already reduced chemicals in the Chesapeake Bay. A county treasurer was quoted as saying, "You pee, you poo, you pay."

"The only difference between death and taxes is that death doesn't get worse every time congress meets."

-Will Rogers

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 US city hosts the biggest 4th of July Fireworks display

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| a) Philadelphia | c) New York City |
| b) Los Angeles | d) Boston |

Call today at (240) 206-8467

Your IRS Questions Answered Here...

Question: *I'm currently separated from my spouse, who owns his own business, and we are in the midst of getting a divorce. I have always filed jointly with my husband and now the IRS is sending me notices stating I owe \$112,000. I have no idea how they are coming up with this amount as my spouse always took care of paying the IRS what was owed.*

Answer: You may be able to avoid this liability entirely under the IRS's Innocent Spouse Relief rules. Under federal law if an income tax return is signed by both husband and wife, both spouses are 100% responsible for the taxes owed. However, the law permits special consideration where a spouse cannot be held responsible for the underreporting of income or the understatement of tax that are attributable to the other spouse.

If you meet the following criteria, you may be able to apply for Equitable Relief under IRS's innocent spouse rules: *If the amount reported on your joint tax return is correct but wasn't paid with the return you may be eligible.* Or, if you feel you were deceived by your spouse or tricked into signing a return you thought was correct this will help your case too. There are many other ways you may be eligible for relief under the IRS's innocent spouse rules, and we can help sort this out and determine the proper path for resolution.

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.