



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 18, 2007

For Information Contact Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 525-2681

GLENDALE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FILING FALSE TAX RETURN

PHOENIX – Robert N. Shearburn, Sr., 65, of Glendale, Arizona, pleaded guilty in federal district court on January 9, 2007, to an indictment charging him with Making and Subscribing to a Materially False Tax Return.

Shearburn admitted that on April 5, 2001, he signed and filed a tax return for the year 2000 that he knew contained materially false information. Shearburn stated that he filed the U.S. Individual Income Tax Return that falsely reported his adjusted gross income was \$58,806, his taxable income was \$28,616 and his tax due and owing was \$2,000. Shearburn admitted that when he filed the 2000 tax return, he knew that his income and tax due and owing far exceeded the amounts he declared. In fact, for tax years 1999-2001, Shearburn stated that his under-reported gross income was approximately \$830,000, with a tax due and owing of \$232,400. Shearburn stated that he received the majority of the under-reported income during tax year 2000. As a condition of his plea agreement, Shearburn agreed to make restitution to the Internal Revenue Service for unpaid taxes in the amount of \$232,400.

Shearburn's son, Robert L. Shearburn, Jr., 44, of Phoenix, Arizona, pleaded guilty to Failure to File a Tax Return on December 20, 2006.

A conviction for Making and Subscribing to a Materially False Tax Return carries a maximum penalty of 3 years, a \$ 100,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Wake will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Sentencing is set before Judge Wake on March 12, 2007.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation. The prosecution is being handled by John R. Lopez IV, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-0177-PHX-NVW
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-013(Shearburn)

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