



***United States Attorney
Southern District of New York***

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**U.S. CHARGES INTERNAL REVENUE AGENT WITH SOLICITING A
BRIBE IN CONNECTION WITH A TAXPAYER AUDIT**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and KEVIN J. McGLYNN, the Special Agent-in-Charge of the United States Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration ("TIGTA"), announced today the indictment of former Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") revenue agent ROBERT ROSNER for soliciting a bribe from a taxpayer. ROSNER surrendered to federal authorities earlier this morning. According to the Indictment filed in Manhattan federal court:

From about August 2004 until December 6, 2006, ROSNER served as an Internal Revenue Agent with the IRS. In that capacity, ROSNER was responsible for conducting taxpayer audits. Beginning in approximately July 2006, ROSNER initiated an audit of a small business (the "Company") based in New York City. On November 28, 2006, ROSNER contacted the head of the Company (the "Victim") to discuss the audit of the Company and requested that the Victim treat ROSNER to lunch. During the lunch, ROSNER told the Victim that he would terminate the IRS audit of the Company if the Victim paid ROSNER \$5,000. The Victim agreed to pay the bribe.

On December 1, 2006, ROSNER submitted internal paperwork at the IRS recommending that no change be made to the Company's tax returns. This step effectively ended the IRS audit of the Company. Two days later, the Victim had a conversation with ROSNER, which, unbeknownst to ROSNER, was recorded. During the conversation, the Victim told ROSNER that the Victim did not feel comfortable with the agreement to pay the bribe. ROSNER

responded that he had already relied on the Victim's acceptance of the bribe offer and taken steps within the IRS to conclude the IRS audit of the Company. The Victim agreed to discuss the issue with ROSNER further. Two days later, the Victim received a telephone call from ROSNER during which ROSNER stated that he had closed the audit of the Company.

ROSNER is expected to be arraigned today at 12:30 p.m. by United States District Judge RICHARD J. HOLWELL.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative efforts of the United States Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

This case is being prosecuted by the Public Corruption Unit of the United States Attorney's Office. Assistant United States Attorney ALEXANDER J. WILLSCHEER is in charge of this prosecution.

The charges and allegations contained in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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