

# NEWS

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United States Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney, District of New Jersey  
970 Broad Street, Seventh Floor  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

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***Christopher J. Christie, U.S. Attorney***

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***More Information?*** Call the Assistant U.S. Attorney or other contact listed below to see if more information is available.

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Contact:

Michael Drewniak  
973-645-2888

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Partner of Accounting Firm Used by Kushner Admits Conspiring to  
Defraud the United States and Aiding in Filing of False Tax Returns

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(More)

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Public Affairs Office  
<http://www.njusao.org>  
Michael Drewniak, PAO

973-645-2888

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NEWARK – The head tax partner of an accounting firm involved in a series of real-estate partnerships controlled by Charles Kushner pleaded guilty today to conspiring to defraud the United States by aiding and assisting the filing of false tax returns, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

Stanley Bekritsky, 58, of Teaneck, a certified public accountant, who at the time of the offense was a partner at a Roseland accounting firm that specialized in servicing the real-estate industry, entered his guilty plea before Judge Jose L. Linares to a one-count Superseding Indictment. Bekritsky's trial was scheduled to begin yesterday, but was delayed due to plea negotiations.

At his plea hearing, Bekritsky admitted that between 1997 and 2002, he participated in a scheme to create false partnership tax returns for properties controlled by the Kushner Companies. Bekritsky admitted that he assisted in the preparation of false corporate tax returns by intentionally mischaracterizing more than \$6 million worth of charitable and political contributions, capital items and gift-and-entertainment charges as business expenses. Bekritsky admitted that the scheme had the effect of creating millions of dollars worth of deductible expenses, which the partnerships and partners could use to offset earnings in current and future years.

Kushner, a real estate mogul, was sentenced on March 4, 2005, to a 24-month sentence for his convictions on charges of assisting in the filing of false tax returns relating to the Kushner Companies, retaliating against a cooperating witness and making false statements to the Federal Election Commission.

Marci Plotkin, a former accountant at the same firm who also worked on the Kushner Companies partnerships, pleaded guilty on Monday, to the same scheme to create false partnership tax returns for the properties controlled by the Kushner Companies. Two other members of the conspiracy are scheduled to start trial this month before Judge Linares. They are Richard Stadtmauer, 49, of Livingston, who served as the vice chairman, managing partner, and vice president of the Kushner Companies, and Anne Amici, 46, of Point Pleasant, an accountant at the Roseland accounting firm. In addition to the conspiracy charge, Stadtmauer faces 17 counts of aiding and assisting in the preparation of false partnership tax returns and Amici faces 11 counts of aiding and assisting in the preparation of false partnership tax returns.

The conspiracy charge to which Bekritsky pleaded guilty to carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

In determining an actual sentence, Judge Linares will consult the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in

determining a sentence.

Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all the time.

Christie credited Special Agents of the IRS, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge William P. Offord, and Special Agents of the FBI, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Weysan Dunn, with developing the case against Bekritsky.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Thomas J. Eicher, Attorney in Charge of the Trenton Office, Rachael A. Honig and Hallie A. Mitchell of the U.S. Attorney's Special Prosecutions Division, in Newark.

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Defense Counsel: Richard J. Schaeffer, Esq. New York