

## Department of Justice

## **United States Attorney Melinda Haag Northern District of California**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: JACK GILLUND December 15, 2011 6599 WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/CAN

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## OAKLEY RESIDENT PLEADS GUILTY TO CONSPIRACY TO FILE FALSE CLAIMS

Obtained Fake ID's To Cash Treasury Checks

SAN FRANCISCO – An Oakley, Calif., resident pleaded guilty yesterday to engaging in a conspiracy to file false claims with the Internal Revenue Service, United States Attorney Melinda Haag and Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation, Scott O'Briant announced.

According to his plea agreement, in June 2010, Jason Moore, aka John McCoy, obtained an Internet account in another person's name, which was used to file false tax returns. Both Moore and other participants in the scheme filed false tax returns using the computer at Moore's residence. The defendant then obtained fake identification to cash the fraudulent Treasury checks issued in the names of individuals whose identities had been stolen. During 2010, \$194,307 in false claims were filed from his residence. Moore has agreed to repay the fraudulent claims that were issued as part of his plea agreement.

Moore, 23, formerly of Pittsburg, Calif., was indicted on June 9, 2011, and pleaded guilty to conspiring to file a false claim against an agency of the United States. Moore is currently detained pending his sentencing, which is scheduled for Feb. 22, 2012.

The maximum statutory penalty for each count of conspiring to file a false claim against an agency of the United States, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 286, is 10 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000, plus restitution if appropriate. However, any sentence following conviction would be imposed by the court after consideration of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and the federal statute governing the imposition of a sentence, 18 U.S.C. § 3553.

Thomas Newman is the Assistant U.S. Attorney who is prosecuting the case with the assistance of Kathy Tat. The prosecution is the result of an investigation by Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation.

## **Further Information:**

Case #: CR 11-373 CRB

A copy of this press release may be found on the U.S. Attorney's Office's website at <a href="https://www.usdoj.gov/usao/can">www.usdoj.gov/usao/can</a>.

Electronic court filings and further procedural and docket information are available at <a href="https://ecf.cand.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/login.pl">https://ecf.cand.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/login.pl</a>.

Judges' calendars with schedules for upcoming court hearings can be viewed on the court's website at www.cand.uscourts.gov.

All press inquiries to the U.S. Attorney's Office should be directed to Jack Gillund at (415) 436-6599 or by e-mail at <u>Jack.Gillund@usdoj.gov</u>.

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