



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Melinda Haag
Northern District of California

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HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE MAN CHARGED WITH TAX EVASION

Used Nominee Bank Account to Pay for Hawaiian Vacation and Dodge Viper

OAKLAND, Calif. – A resident of Hidden Valley Lake, Calif., was arrested yesterday on one count of tax evasion, United States Attorney Melinda Haag and Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation, Scott O’Briant announced.

According to the indictment, Jay Scott Soderling, formerly of Healdsburg, Calif., the owner of Ripp It Earth Movers, willfully attempted to evade the payment of \$161,155.44 in federal income and employment taxes due for tax years 1995 through 2004. Soderling committed various affirmative acts including placing assets in the names of nominees; dealing in currency; causing debts to be paid through and in the name of nominees; submitting a false financial statement to the IRS; making false statements to an IRS Revenue Officer; and using funds from a nominee bank account to pay creditors, spend for a Hawaiian vacation, a Mastercraft boat and trailer, and a Dodge Viper.

Soderling, 53, was indicted on Aug. 9, 2011. He made his initial appearance in federal court this morning.

The maximum statutory penalty for each count of tax evasion, in violation of Title 26, U.S.C § 7201, is five years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. 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.

Tom Moore 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 the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation.

Please note, an indictment contains only allegations against an individual and, as with all defendants, Soderling must be presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Further Information:

Case #: CR11-0530

A copy of this press release may be found on the U.S. Attorney's Office's website at www.usdoj.gov/usao/can.

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

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 Jack.Gillund@usdoj.gov.

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