

# Tax Resolution Times



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## ‘Soup Nazi’ Tells the IRS, “No Taxes for You!”

Robert Bertrand of NY, CFO of the Soupman, Inc, which holds the licenses to the name and recipes of the “Soup Nazi” made famous by the TV show “Seinfeld”, was indicted on 20 counts of failure to pay Medicare, Social Security, and federal income taxes.

Prosecutors allege that between 2010 and 2014, Bertrand paid his employees cash on the side and did not collect or pay the required withholding taxes. In addition, Bertrand compensated certain employees large stock awards which were never reported to the IRS. The approximate total amount of unreported cash and stock compensation was \$2,850,967, which translates to a loss to the US of \$593,971. Bertrand’s employees also face a loss of any future social security and Medicare payments.

It’s also alleged that Bertrand received a warning from an external auditor in 2012 that these payments should be reported to the IRS but chose to ignore it. The indictment suggests that he cannot claim ignorance.

If convicted, Bertrand could face five years in prison plus monetary fines and restitution. A trial date is pending.

## IRS Employee Turned Thief is Indicted

An employee at the IRS office in Atlanta, GA, Stephanie Parker was indicted on charges of wire fraud and aggravated identity theft.

Parker has access to taxpayer’s personal information, including social security numbers and dates of birth. It’s alleged that between September 2012 and April 2013, she used this information to file fraudulent tax returns for refunds. Parker had the refunds deposited into a nominee bank account where she would then use the money to purchase money orders.

If convicted, she faces a maximum sentence of 20 years for each count of wire fraud and 2 years for identity theft, plus restitution and monetary penalties.



“ROBBING PEOPLE JUST SEEMED LIKE A NATURAL PROGRESSION . . . I USED TO WORK FOR THE IRS”

## **Businessman Who Stole Money from NFL Players Gets Sacked by the IRS**

A businessman from High Point, NC, Michael Rowan, who provided financial services to professional athletes, including NFL players was sentenced to 65 months in prison for filing a false 2011 tax return and wire fraud.

Rowan would contact prospective NFL players in college offering them financial and wealth management services. Upon being drafted by the NFL, Rowan would offer his services for an annual fee of \$15,000 to \$50,000 and have them sign agreements that allowed him access to their bank accounts.

Instead of only making transactions that his clients authorized, Rowan transferred more than \$2.9 million into his own personal accounts without the player's knowledge. From 2009 to 2013, Rowan failed to report the embezzled funds on his federal tax returns. This caused a net loss of more than \$479,000 to the IRS.

In addition to jail time, Rowan will have one year supervised release and ordered to pay restitution to his victims in the amount of \$2,960,295 and \$479,352 to the IRS.

## ***IRS Collection Calls Now May be Real***

For years the IRS has warned taxpayers about the tax scam calls in which scammers pretend to be from the IRS and threaten the taxpayer with wage garnishment or imprisonment unless they pay that day by getting prepaid cards or depositing cash into bogus bank accounts.

But the IRS made major revisions to the IRS code on "collections" and starting on April 19, 2017, real third party debt collectors can call you to collect taxes owing.

The IRS has awarded contracts to 4 agencies currently: Conserve, Pioneer, Performant and CBE Group. This information is public so the scammers might try to impersonate employees of these companies.

Before you receive any calls, the IRS will send you a letter and so will the debt collection agency. But scammers will also be sending bogus letters.

So how do you protect yourself? If you receive a call, ask for all of the information you can from the person calling regarding their name, company information and phone number then hang up and do your own research. If the phone number matches the real company then it's legitimate. Also keep in mind that the tax collectors cannot threaten jail time, garnish wages or collect payment over the phone.

More than 5,500 people have already been victims of the scams for a loss of over \$36 million dollars. If you receive one of these calls call us – WE CAN HELP!

# **Thank you!**

Thank you to Aramis Rodriguez who referred Yudy Vasquez.

Thanks to YOU, the word is spreading. Thanks to my clients and friends who graciously referred me to their friends, clients and relatives last month! I enjoy building my business based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you.

I just couldn't do it without you!

## Minnesota Man Tries to Convince the IRS “I’m Not Dead Yet”

It took a U.S. Senator, Amy Klobuchar from Minnesota to finally reverse the false declaration that Adam Ronning, 33, was deceased after he tried for 29 years.

The error started when Ronning was 4 years old, and his mother received a letter stating that she could no longer receive child support because somehow the IRS declared her son was deceased. The IRS blamed the error on a computer glitch but never rectified the situation.

Ronning states, “They’ve never been able to prove that I’m dead. It’s always me proving that I’m still here.”

After Ronning filed his 2009 tax returns, the IRS gave him only half of his refund because they showed him as deceased. Ronning continued to file his taxes every year but never received the refund due him and spent hours on the phone with the IRS, on hold, trying to speak to supervisors only to be told it was a problem with the Social Security office.

After finally receiving a letter from the Department of Treasury, Ronning is hoping to receive an estimated amount of \$20,000 that the IRS owes him in tax refunds.

A “60 Minutes” investigation found that approximately 9,000 Americans are erroneously declared dead each year.

## Prominent Philadelphia Attorney Can Add IRS Indictment to His Wikipedia Page

Husband and wife attorneys, Edward “Ted” Millstein and Susan Halpern from Rittenhouse, PA, were indicted on charges of willfully attempting to evade taxes.

Prosecutors state that Millstein concealed their assets, lied to IRS agents about their income, and put money and property in the names of others to avoid paying taxes.

It’s not the first time the couple has been in trouble for failing to pay taxes. Both Millstein and Halpern were charged for failing to pay taxes in 2010 in the amount of \$143,473.35 and in 2011 in the amount of \$153,560.69.

The IRS filed liens against the couple; in 2013, a lien was filed by the feds in the amount of \$151,459 and the State of PA filed a state tax lien in the amount of \$28,715.

If convicted on all charges, Millstein could face a prison sentence of up to seven years, three years’ probation and \$450,000 in fines. The max sentence for Halpern would be two years in jail, one year probation and \$200,000 in fines.

## Are You My Next Client of the Month?

Every month I choose a very special *Client of the Month*. It’s my way of acknowledging good friends and saying “thanks!” to those who support me and my business with referrals, word of mouth and repeat business.

This month’s *Client of the Month* is *F. V of the FV Company*. *His company was selected for audit last year. After a lengthy, audit, and threats by the auditor of increasing personal income by \$100,000. The case was settled for \$7000.00 only. The client was on vacation in Europe at the time of the writing of this article and could not be reached for comment.*

You might be my next *Client of the Month* too! Watch for your name here in an upcoming month.

### Illinois Woman Gets Jail Time for Filing False Tax Returns

Shameka Carr, formerly of Poplar Grove, IL, was sentenced to 87 months in prison, three years supervised release and ordered to pay \$365,764 in restitution to the IRS. From 2012 to 2014, Carr used stolen IDs requesting refunds in the form of prepaid debit cards and refund checks be mailed to addresses she controlled. In court, Carr admitted to the intended loss to the IRS in the amount of \$1,026,284.

### Thank you for the Kind Words...

To Whom It May Concern:  
I came to Mr. Silvershein with what I believed to be a very complex problem with the IRs. Mr. Silvershein took the time to review all of my information after which he knew exactly what to ask for and how to handle the situation (IRS) . Much to my astonishment, within four weeks he achieved a very satisfying resolution to the situation. I most definitely recommend him for resolving tax problems with the IRS and the State  
L Rupert, New York NY

### I'd Like to Hear From You!

If you have an IRS issue, or just want to refer a friend, relative or client, we'd love to hear from you. We can provide a no-obligation confidential consultation to help you solve your IRS problems.

**Law Office of Daniel M. Silvershein,**  
262 West 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1007, New York, NY

## Enter Our Trivia Contest for a Chance to Win a \$250 Transferrable Gift Certificate!

*Take the Trivia Challenge to win!*

Each month, I'll give you a new trivia question. The first **THREE** people who call my office with the correct answer win a free \$250 reduction on any IRS service I provide. Your prize is also transferrable, so use it for yourself, or give it to a family member or friend. Take your best guess and call me at 888-382-7880

If you guess correctly, you will be able to help yourself, friend or loved one with this valuable service.

This month's question is:

**What is the only manmade object that is observable from the moon?**

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| a) Statue of Liberty | b) Hoover Dam          |
| c) Taj Mahal         | d) Great Wall of China |

### Your IRS Questions Answered Here...

**Question:** *I just received a letter from the IRS informing me they want to audit my 2015 income tax return. I really didn't need this right now. What should I do?*

**Answer:** First, take a deep breath knowing there is expert help available to you. As part of the IRS's audit process they'll ask you dozens of very innocent sounding questions, however many of these can be invasive as well as intrusive. The answers to which can "seal" your fate with the IRS auditor. But there is a "right way" to answers these questions. The IRS's mission is to determine the accuracy of your tax return and they will leave no stone unturned to accomplish this. We have found that many taxpayers who decide to handle an IRS audit themselves wind up with a substantial bill owing the IRS thousands of dollars. Auditors are trained to obtain information from you that in a lot of cases is not required under the law. They get away with this because most people fear them and don't know their rights.

Our clients generally NEVER meet or speak with the IRS. We handle everything for you so you don't have to take time away from your job or business to deal with all of the IRS's paperwork. Simply forward your audit letter to us and we'll handle the rest. Don't let them walk all over you. We know the law. We know your rights. We can help!

We at The Law Office of Daniel M. Silvershein are experts in tax resolution and help taxpayers like you with their IRS Problems every day.

Call us at 1-888-382-7880, or e-mail us at [daniel@dmsilverlaw.com](mailto:daniel@dmsilverlaw.com).