

NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS*

*RANDY G. MASSEY
ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY*

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

SEPTEMBER 22, 2006

EAST ST. LOUIS MAN INDICTED ON TAX OFFENSES

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on September 21, 2006, **LAMAR D. GENTRY**, age 59, of East St. Louis, Illinois, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in East St. Louis, Illinois in a fifteen (15) count indictment charging him with Tax Evasion, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7201 and Failure to File Federal Income Tax Returns, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7203. Each count of Tax Evasion has a maximum possible punishment of a term of imprisonment of up to five [5] years, a fine of up to \$250,000, and up to three years supervised release. Each count of Failure to File a Federal Income Tax Return has a maximum possible punishment of up to one [1] year imprisonment, a fine of up to \$100,000 and up to one year of supervised release. The Indictment charges that **LAMAR D. GENTRY** failed to file U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns and U.S. Corporate Income Tax Returns for the tax years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004. The Indictment alleges that during this time period **LAMAR D. GENTRY** served as Village Administrator for the Village of Alorton and worked on a contractual basis for the Village of Washington Park, and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

The Indictment is the result of an investigation conducted by the Internal Revenue Service/Criminal Investigations. Byram Tichenor, Special Agent in Charge of the IRS Criminal Investigation Division, Chicago Field Office, stated that "Tax evasion is not a victimless crime. Honest, hardworking Americans pay the price when others choose to evade their tax obligations. It is the responsibility of every tax payer to file federal tax returns. IRS Criminal Investigation is committed to aggressively pursuing those taxpayers who willfully fail to file their tax returns."

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

This prosecution is being handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Norman R. Smith.

If you suspect or know of an individual or company that is not complying with the tax laws, you may report this activity by contacting the local Internal Revenue Service/Criminal Investigation Office at (618) 622-2160 or by mailing information to:

Internal Revenue Service
Fresno, CA 93888

Please include the following information, if available:

Name and address of the person you are reporting

The taxpayer identification number (social security number for an individual or employer identification number for a business)

A brief description of the alleged violation, including how you became aware of or obtained the information

The years involved

The estimated dollar amount of any unreported income

Your name, address and daytime telephone number

Although you are not required to identify yourself, it is helpful to do so. Your identity can be kept confidential. You may also be entitled to a reward.