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PRESS RELEASE

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BOLIVAR WOMAN SENTENCED IN TAX FRAUD CASE

Jackson , TN - Terrell L. Harris, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, and Clayton L. Cooper, Special Agent in Charge of Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, Nashville Field Office, announced that Ann Gatlin was sentenced today to serve one year in prison followed by one year of supervised release. U.S. District Chief Judge James D. Todd also ordered Gatlin to pay $50,053 in restitution to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Gatlin, aka Evelyn Ann Jones, aka Evelyn A. Coble, pled guilty on August 17, 2001, to a one-count information charging her with aiding and assisting in the preparation of a false tax return. According to the information, Gatlin prepared a 1996 tax return for Towanda T. Jones. The information states that the return was fraudulent and false as to material matters in that the return indicated that Jones was entitled to claim earned income credit based upon earned wages of $5,901.000. The information alleges that Gatlin knew and believed that Jones earned less than that amount and was not entitled to claim earned income credit for 1996.

Judge Todd determined that Gatlin owed restitution to the IRS for the total tax loss to the government caused by the false returns prepared by Gatlin as part of the scheme. Judge Todd ordered that Gatlin be given credit towards restitution for all fund recouped by the IRS from the individual recipient taxpayers.

This investigation was conducted by IRS-Criminal Investigation Special Agent James C. Jackson. Assistant U.S. Attorney Leigh Grinalds represented the government at today's hearing.

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