

STATEMENT OF EVANGELOS DIMITROS SOUKAS
April 12, 2007

My name is Evangelos Dimitros Soukas. I am currently serving time for wire fraud, mail fraud, fraudulent use of another person's means of identification, and identity theft in result making false claims to the IRS.

To high jack the personal information of someone is not hard at all. Social security numbers are available in many places for a common thief to obtain. For example a telephone company, insurance card, work place, school records, and that list goes on. The system in my eyes is inviting criminals like myself to steal from the IRS, banks, etc.

In March 2000, I came across an advertisement on the internet that states receive your tax refund within days of filing.

For a criminal already on the run from the FBI, this was an easy way to make money quickly if I was to be successful. So I clicked on the advertisement and was directed to the H&R Block web site.

After looking around on the web site I had started to file a tax return for myself by entering all my personal information, then making up a w-2 entry on the web site from which I had copied from my mother's tax return. It took me a couple of hours to work it out to make the tax return look legitimate.

Then I came across a problem, the site requested of a 9 digit tax code for the employer filed. I didn't want to use my mothers employer code, so I contacted one of my past employers human resources and requested the 9 digit code. I got the code instantly and continued the process on the web site.

When I was finished with the preparation I had a refund of \$3614.00, then sent the filing to the IRS via the H&R block web site.

Then I got an offer to apply for an anticipation loan and to receive my refund within a few days of approval of the IRS. So I applied for the simple loan, and a few days later I received the money in my checking account.

I didnt know if this scheme was going to work but it was worth a try to see if it was going to happen. In only a few hours of work I had made \$3614.00. My first thoughts where that this is a really easy way to get money and if I wanted to I would be able to high jack other people's identity and never get caught if I where to take the neccessary precautions.

The following year after January 1st I went into overdrive and quickly started filing false claims to the IRS through numerous web sites, with other people's personal information that I had used on my past crimes of identity theft.

I was successful on many attempts that netted me \$43,600.00 in 2001, by simply doing the same thing as the year before but using high-jack identities. But that year I was doing at an average of 2 hours to file for each return. I was a little careless about depositing the money into my own checking account.

I could have easily opened up a false checking account online and have the money sent into a fraudulent account and never be traced back to me. But I had this mentality that I was in Greece and the FBI was not able to capture me so I really didn't care if I was using my personal information.

On few occasions I called into the IRS call center. I was checking on the status of the false returns I had placed. Most of the time the automated service would answer my request by entering in the Social security number and the exact amount of the refund and then will tell me the status of the refund.

On a few filings I was denied, and I wanted to see what had happened, so I requested to speak to an IRS representative to request what had happen to my tax return. I would give the information that was wanted to grant access to the IRS file by stating that I was the John Doe and gave the Social security number with the exact amount of the return.

Then the IRS representative would state that problem to me and tell me I would have to file the return by paper, which I never did.

I would have continued this scheme in the following years, but I had moved onto bigger and better things to make more money in different areas of fraud.

In 2003 an IRS agent had made contact with my sister to find out where I could be found. My sister informed the agent I was on the run from the FBI, and to contact the FBI agent in charge of my case in Seattle.

My sister gave me the contact information to the IRS agent and I had given him a call for the reasoning to find out what he had on me pertaining the IRS. I spoke to him briefly and I was honest to him, and the 1 question that stuck to my head was that he asked if I had any professional training in tax preparation. I simple responded by saying no, I just have a high school diploma and never took any training in tax preparation.

The agent found it hard to believe I was able to do what I was doing with no education in taxes, and simple called me a genius. I simple responded by telling him that it does not take a rocket scientist to do what I had done. After that I had ended the call and never heard from him again.

After my arrest 2 years later I had seen my discovery from the prosecutors office that showed in the report. The IRS had spent countless hours investigating me with many field agents taking statements from the victims of my crime. If my memory serves me correctly the IRS spent around 250 hours on my case in total, from what is said from the IRS agent report.

In my eyes it doesn't take a Einstein to file false tax claims, it is actually pretty easy. If I really wanted to continue in this field I could have safe guarded my true identity and never been caught.

What I don't understand is why doesn't the IRS have some type of security measure by issuing out a pin number or even using a mother's maiden name when filing electronically or even calling in the call center, there should be some type of extra measure to safe guard the people's tax records in my opinion.