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October 12, 2001

OWNER OF TRUCKING BUSINESS SENTENCED ON INCOME TAX EVASION CHARGES

PRESS RELEASE

Orlando, Florida -- Friday, October 12, 2001. RICKEY RAY DRYDEN, age 45, of Deland, Florida, was sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment, a \$40,000 fine, a \$300 special assessment, and two years supervised release. DRYDEN is the owner of DRYDEN Transport Systems, Inc., Foliage Transport, Plant Express and DRYDEN Transport Management Service. DRYDEN had previously pled guilty to an indictment charging him with income tax evasion for the calendar years 1993, 1994, and 1995.

The Indictment to which DRYDEN had pled guilty specifically charged that:

a. for the calendar year 1993, DRYDEN filed a false individual income tax return and stated that his taxable income for said calendar year was the sum of \$3,169.00 and that the amount of tax due and owing thereon was the sum of \$33,034.00, whereas, as he then and there well knew and believed, his taxable income for the said calendar year was the sum of \$133,792.00, upon which said taxable income there was owing to the United States of America an income tax of \$77,488.00.

b. for the calendar year 1994, DRYDEN filed a false individual income tax return and stated that his taxable income for said calendar year was the sum of \$44,659.00 and that

the amount of tax due and owing thereon was the sum of \$48,887.00, whereas, as he then and there well knew and believed, his taxable income for the said calendar year was the sum of \$186,498.00, upon which said taxable income there was owing to the United States of America an income tax of \$98,851.00.

c. for the calendar year 1994, DRYDEN filed a false amended individual income tax return and stated that his taxable income for said calendar year was the sum of \$201,095.00 and that the amount of tax due and owing thereon was the sum of \$12,784.00, whereas, as he then and there well knew and believed, his taxable income for the said calendar year was the sum of \$301,354.00, upon which said taxable income there was owing to the United States of America an income tax of \$42,364.00.

As a special condition of DRYDEN's supervised release, he must also pay all back taxes with interest and penalties and cooperate with the Internal Revenue Service in the determinations of those amounts.

This case was investigated by special agents of the Internal Revenue Service and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attomeys I. Randall Gold and Anita M. Cream.

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