

"Read About Taxpayers with IRS Problems & Find Out How to Solve Them"



Tax Attorney, Venar Ayar

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

USA Network's Todd & Julie Chrisley Each Facing 30 Years in Jail for Fraud!1
Tax Evader in Mega Trouble 1
Business Owner Refuses to Pay

Federal	Taxes,	IRS	Loses	Faith
Clothina	Store	Own	er Mav	Get

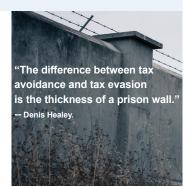
New	
Orange Jumpsuit	

Thank you for the Kind Words	2
Tay Problems PESOLVED	3

Ask	Venar.	 	 	3

ľd	Ī	ike	to	Hear	From	You	3

Tax Facts	3
Webinars & Events of Interest	4



## **USA Network's Todd & Julie Chrisley Each** Facing 30 Years in Jail for Fraud!

Todd and Julie Chrisley, the stars of the popular reality TV show, Chrisley Knows Best, were found guilty of financial fraud and tax evasion, and each face up to 30 years in prison.

Chrisley Knows Best is USA Network's most watched current original series and depicts a family with traditional values who happen to be enormously rich. According to court documents, most of their wealth is based on fraud.

In one example, the Chrisley's obtained a loan worth millions of dollars by using a bank statement saying they had four million dollars in a Merrill Lynch account, when no such account existed. Julie Chrisley was accused of repeatedly using glue and tape to falsify documents.

The couple used the money from the loans to buy luxury cars, designer clothes, real estate and travel. At the same time, they filed for bankruptcy and walked

away from more than 20 million dollars in debt.

NBC Universal had just announced that the show was renewed for a 10th season. and a new series, Love Limo, a dating show hosted by Todd Chrisley, would begin next year. Production on both is now on hold.



## Tax Evader in Mega Trouble

Pawel Bartoszek, the owner of Mega State, a construction company in New York, was charged with filing false business and personal tax returns from 2015 to 2017.



During that time Bartoszek cashed more than six million dollars in checks paid to Mega State at check cashing businesses, instead of depositing the funds in the business bank account. He used the cash to pay the majority of his employees off the books, and on personal expenses. Bartoszek did not inform his accountant about the cashed checks, and did not declare any of the money on his business or personal tax returns.

He faces up to 18 years in prison and restitution to the IRS.

## Business Owner Refuses to Pay Federal Taxes, IRS Loses Faith

Kimberly Zulkowski, the owner of Faith Family Services, a personal care business, was sentenced to 15 months in prison, followed by three years of supervision, for failing to pay over money she withheld from her employees' wages.

Faith Family Services had 150 employees and annual gross receipts in excess of five million dollars when Zulkowski was arrested. The IRS warned Zulkowski in 2015 that she was violating federal tax laws and ordered her to pay over what she owed. Zulkowski ignored the warnings and continued the criminal conduct for an additional two years before her arrest.

While running the business, she produced Grandma's House, a documentary about her grandmother, who took in numerous children over many years as a foster parent.

In addition to the prison sentence, Zulkowski has been ordered to pay \$731,970 in restitution to the IRS, and a \$100 special assessment fee.

# Clothing Store Owner May Get New Orange Jumpsuit

Sung Hwan Lee, the owner of BBB Fashion, a chain of clothing stores in Phoenix and Tucson, pleaded guilty to tax evasion.

From 2012 to 2016 Lee told his employees to give him all the cash received from customers. Lee kept two sets of books, one that listed credit card sales and one that listed both credit card and cash sales. He gave his accountant the books that reported only the credit card sales.

Young Bok Lee, an employee of BBB Fashion, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to defraud the United States for his role in the scheme perpetrated by his

boss. Bok Lee handled the company's bookkeeping and payroll, and was instrumental in aiding the stores' owner in hiding millions in income from the IRS.

Sung Hwan Lee underreported his income from 2012 to 2016 by \$9,355,894. This resulted in a tax loss to the IRS of \$3,696,786.

Sung Hwan Lee faces up to 30 years in prison and restitution, and Young Bok Lee faces up to five years in prison.



## Thank you for the Kind Words...

A.D. - Client

"I met with them and let me say, I was dreading starting into this problem for years. For years I did have terror in my heart. In under 30 minutes he had fully grasped the situation I was faced with and laid out a simple plan to face it. I literally cried as I left because the relief was so overwhelming. I cannot say thank you enough!"

T.E. – Client

"The entire staff treated me with nothing but respect and had compassion for my situation. I always felt that everyone in the building had my best interests at the top of their agenda. They not only helped me but I would consider what they did was 'save' me. Whether you are someone who is in over your head in tax debt or just someone that could use expert advice and a sense of direction with your tax issues, Ayar Law is the place you need to visit."



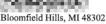
# RESOLVED **Tax Problems**

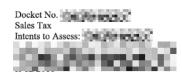
The Michigan Department of Treasury audited our client's business sales taxes and claimed they owed the state over \$200,000.

Ayar Law argued the case before the Treasury and succeeded in reducing the balance due to \$38,048.65.

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY







#### DECISION AND ORDER OF DETERMINAT

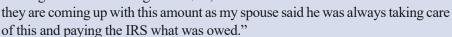
The Department, having reviewed the recommendation of the Referee in the above captioned matter, and having been advised in the premises; and

It appearing that this recommendation is supported by authority and reasoned opinion, and that the same accordingly be accepted;

Now therefore it is ordered and determined that the proposed deficiency covering the period appearing on the respective notice of Intent to Assess ' is cancelled.

## **Ask Venar**

**Q:** "I'm currently separated from my spouse, who owns his own business, and we are in the process of getting a divorce. I have always filed jointly with my husband and now the IRS is sending me notices stating I owe \$65,000. I have no idea how



A: You may be able to avoid this liability entirely under the IRS's Innocent Spouse Relief rules. Under federal law if an income tax return is signed by both husband and wife, both spouses are 100% responsible for the taxes owed. However, the law permits special consideration where a spouse cannot be held responsible for the underreporting of income or the understatement of tax that are attributable to the other spouse.

If your spouse didn't report all their income; and you were not aware of it and had no reason to know about it when you signed the tax return; and it would be unfair to hold you liable for the taxes owed due to your spouse's error - you may be able to apply for innocent spouse relief. It will also help your case if you feel you were deceived by your spouse or tricked into signing a return you thought was correct.



That's some valuable real estate! Due to the State of Delaware's low flat corporate tax rate, a single address in Wilmington, 1209 North Orange St., is the legal address of more than 300,000 companies.



Riding a balloon that's tethered to the grass is subject to the amusement tax in Kansas. If it's not tethered, it's considered transportation and is not taxable.

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

If your client has a problem with the IRS and you have questions about how you can help them - remember that you can call me anytime, nocharge. My direct line is 248-350-4000.







### Venar Ayar presents...







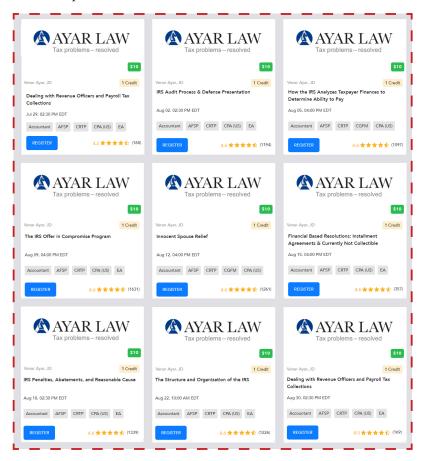




### Webinars & Events of Interest



Go to MyCPE at <a href="https://ayarlaw.com/mycpe">https://ayarlaw.com/mycpe</a> to view a range of Venar Ayar's presentations on important tax resolution topics.





In August and September, the Michigan Association of CPAs (MICPA) will be sharing two new webinars from Venar Ayar. His webinar entitled, "What you need to know if your client is being audited and you think they committed fraud" will begin showing in August. His webinar entitled, "Tips on Dealing with Revenue Officers for Unpaid Payroll Taxes" will premier in September. For information and to register, go to <a href="https://micpa.org/cpe/store/course-detail?ProductId=131292">https://micpa.org/cpe/store/course-detail?ProductId=131292</a>.



This year's Cannabis Law Conference from the Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) will take place at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa. Venar Ayar will present "Fundamentals of Tax in the Cannabis Industry on Friday, September 30. Go to <a href="http://www.icle.org/cannabi-slaw">http://www.icle.org/cannabi-slaw</a> for more information.







