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Mar. 07, 2014

A former Waterbury, Connecticut police detective was sentenced on Thursday to five months in prison and five months of home confinement for trying to mislead a federal Internal Revenue Service investigation of charitable contributions he claimed as deductions on his tax returns in 2007 and 2008, according to the U.S. Attorney's office.

Robert Liquindoli was charged in connection with a federal investigation of retired IRS agent Thomas Thorndike, who opened a Waterbury-area tax preparation business that counted many area law enforcement officers as clients.

Thorndike, who prepared Liquindoli's tax returns, was sentenced to six years in prison for tax fraud and was accused of falsifying returns in order to give clients undeserved deductions, according to the U.S. Attorney's office.

Liquindoli was arrested in 2012 and subsequently lost his job with the police department.

When IRS agents accused Liquindoli of claiming questionable deductions, authorities said he lied to them and tried to create phony receipts to justify his claimed noncash, charitable contributions.

In November, Liquindoli pleaded guilty to one count of obstruction of the administration of the IRS.

At his sentencing Thursday, Liquindoli was also ordered to pay restitution in the

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