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excise taxes for three years.

Jan. 06, 2023



By William Thornton, al.com (TNS)

A federal grand jury has indicted 11 men—including six from Alabama—on charges that the sports betting organization they managed evaded tens of millions of dollars in excise taxes for three years.

U.S. Attorney Prim F. Escalona, Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge Lisa Fontanette, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations Special Agent in

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count of conspiring to operate an illegal sports-betting organization, one count of conspiring to commit money laundering, and one count of money laundering.

- Nathanael Burdette, 36, of Birmingham, charged with six counts of tax evasion, one count of conspiring to operate an illegal sports-betting organization, one count of conspiring to commit money laundering, and two counts of money laundering.
- Jonathan Lind, 44, of Birmingham, charged with six counts of tax evasion, one count of conspiring to operate an illegal sports-betting organization, one count of conspiring to commit money laundering, and two counts of money laundering.
- Thomas V. Zito, 57, of Vestavia, charged with six counts of tax evasion, one count of conspiring to operate an illegal sports-betting organization, one count of conspiring to commit money laundering, and one count of money laundering.
- Christopher Donaldson, 46, of Trussville, charged with one count of conspiring to operate an illegal sport-betting organization and one count of conspiring to commit money laundering.
- Gary L. Rapp, Jr., 44, of Lakeland, TN, charged with six counts of tax evasion, one count of conspiring to operate an illegal sports-betting organization, one count of conspiring to commit money laundering, and two counts of money laundering.
- Mark Giaquinto, 50, of Upton, MA, charged with six counts of tax evasion, one count of conspiring to operate an illegal sports-betting organization, one count of conspiring to commit money laundering, and two counts of money laundering.
- Matthew D. Voorhees, 47, of Englewood, CO, charged with six counts of tax evasion, one count of conspiring to operate an illegal sports-betting organization, one count of conspiring to commit money laundering, and two counts of money laundering.
- David Richards, 38, of Las Vegas, NV, charged with six counts of tax evasion, one count of conspiring to operate an illegal sports-betting organization, one count of conspiring to commit money laundering, and two counts of money laundering.

• Joshua Gentrup, 36, of Athens, GA, charged with six counts of tax evasion, one

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Prosecutors say Red44 is estimated to have taken in hundreds of millions of dollars in wagers from 2019 through 2021. They estimate a gross profit of nearly \$75 million over the three-year period, which would have resulted in approximately \$20 million in excise taxes owed to the IRS.

IRS Criminal Investigations and Homeland Security Investigations investigated the case. Assistant United States Attorneys Catherine Crosby, Kristen Osborne, and Ryan Rummage are prosecuting the case.

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