

**Criminal  
Investigation  
Mission**



*Criminal Investigation serves the American public by investigating potential criminal violations of the Internal Revenue Code and related financial crimes in a manner that fosters confidence in the tax system and compliance with the law.*



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<http://www.treas.gov/irs/ci>



**CRIMINAL  
INVESTIGATION**

**Overview**

Internal Revenue

## **Focus on Tax**

Tax cases involving legally earned income are and continue to be a priority for IRS Criminal Investigation, followed by money laundering and illegal source income cases.

### **Why is IRS Criminal Investigation involved in financial crimes?**

Since the inception of IRS Criminal Investigation, special agents have been trained to follow the money. No matter what the source, all income earned, both legal and illegal, has the potential of becoming involved in crimes which fall within the investigative jurisdiction of IRS Criminal Investigation.

IRS special agents conduct full, in-depth financial investigations which are intensely revealing about income sources, business transactions and business associates. Such complex financial investigations often lead right to the door of a major tax evader, a drug kingpin, a fraudulent telemarketer, or corrupt conduct by healthcare executives, return preparers, or even the local grocery store operator.

### **ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS**

- **Tax violations**
- **Money Laundering**
- **Currency Crimes**
- **Asset Forfeiture**



## **THREE ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES**

The Criminal Investigation Program Strategy is comprised of three interdependent programs: Legal Source Tax Crimes; Illegal Source Financial Crimes; and Narcotics-Related Financial Crimes. These three areas are mutually supportive, and they encourage utilization of all statutes within IRS-CI's jurisdiction, the grand jury process, and various enforcement techniques to combat tax, money laundering and currency crime violations.

### **LEGAL SOURCE TAX CRIMES**

IRS-CI's primary resource commitment is to develop and investigate Legal Source tax investigations. These investigations involve legal industries and occupations, and more specifically, legally earned income. Legal Source Tax Crimes includes those cases that threaten the tax system, such as Questionable Refund cases, unscrupulous return preparers and frivolous filers/non-filers who challenge the legality of the filing requirement, and employment tax fraud cases.

### **ILLEGAL SOURCE FINANCIAL CRIMES**

The Illegal Source Financial Crimes Program recognizes that illegal source proceeds, which are part of the untaxed underground economy, are a threat to the voluntary tax compliance system and failure to investigate these cases would erode public confidence in the tax system. Within this program, IRS-CI will commit resources to those investigations that involve proceeds derived from sources other than narcotics. This program encompasses all tax and tax related violations, as well as money laundering and currency violations.

### **NARCOTICS-RELATED FINANCIAL CRIMES**

The primary objective in the Narcotics-Related Financial Crimes Program is to reduce the profit and financial gains of narcotics trafficking and money laundering organizations that comprise a significant portion of the untaxed underground economy. Under this program, IRS-CI will seek to identify, investigate and assist in the prosecution of the most significant narcotics-related tax and money laundering offenders.

## **ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE**

The Chief, Criminal Investigation is in the IRS headquarters office located in Washington, DC. The Chief directs the policies and programs for IRS Criminal Investigation nationwide. Those responsibilities include the enforcement of the criminal statutes relative to tax administration and related financial crimes; violations of the Bank Secrecy Act, and the Money Laundering Control Act. There are 35 Special-Agents-In-Charge reporting to the Chief CI through six Directors of Field Operations. Of the 4,500 employees, approximately 3,000 are Special Agents, highly specialized and expertly trained financial investigators.

### **FRAUD & MONEY LAUNDERING PROGRAMS**

- **General Tax Fraud**
- **Return Preparer Fraud**
- **Questionable Refunds**
- **Foreign & Domestic Trusts**
- **Frivolous Filer/Non-Filer**
- **Employment Tax Fraud**
- **Excise Tax Fraud**
- **Bankruptcy Fraud**
- **Telemarketing Fraud**
- **Healthcare Fraud**
- **Financial Institution Fraud**
- **Insurance Fraud**
- **Gaming**
- **Public Corruption**
- **Narcotics-Related Issues**
- **Organized Crime Issues**