



# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Suite 15116, 1800 Century Blvd, Atlanta, GA 30345-3205

For Immediate Release: January 24, 2013

Contact: Department of Revenue (404) 417-2106

Email: [jud.seymour@dor.ga.gov](mailto:jud.seymour@dor.ga.gov)

---

## **Two Arrested for Filing More than 100 Fraudulent Tax Returns**

ATLANTA – Agents from the Georgia Department of Revenue’s Office of Special Investigations and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation arrested Justin James Harrison and Hakeem Hopkins on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. Harrison and Hopkins were arrested at their Marietta apartment on charges of first degree forgery and identity fraud.

After noticing a pattern of over one hundred refunds going to one address during the 2011 filing season, the Office of Special Investigations began their lengthy investigation into who was perpetrating the crime. The findings of the investigation identified that 132 fraudulent refunds were sent, totaling about \$134,000. This investigation came to a head on Tuesday when a search warrant and arrest warrant were executed.

“In the continuous fight against fraud,” said Revenue Commissioner Doug MacGinnitie “we have taken many steps to both stop tax dollars from getting into the hands of criminals and in the cases when we don’t stop it, we have a system in place to track and find the people who are defrauding the State.”

In calendar year 2011 the Department of Revenue blocked just over \$91.5 million in fraudulent returns and during calendar year 2012 the Department blocked over \$98.5 million. The Department has updated its internal systems and uses new technology to help stop fraud in Georgia.

Special Agent Alan Dickinson of the Department of Revenue and Special Agent Wesley Horne of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation lead this successful investigation for their respective agency.