

Lauryn Hill To Face Tax Charges in New Jersey

By Frank L. Brunetti on June 27th, 2012 Posted in Income Tax, Taxes

R&B Grammy winner, record label owner and former Fugees member Lauryn Hill has been accused of failing to file her income taxes for several years.

The U.S. Attorney's office of New Jersey said the singer failed to file income taxes with the Internal Revenue Service for tax years 2005, 2006 and 2007 and pay taxes on roughly \$1.6 million in income. The singer currently owns and operates Creations Music Inc., Boogie Tours Inc., L.H. Productions 2001 Inc. and Studio 22 Inc., and earns the majority of her income from royalties through these companies.

The Newark, New Jersey, resident is scheduled to appear before a U.S. Tax Court on June 29. If convicted of violating federal tax law, she may face up to one year in prison and \$100,000 in fines on each of the three charges.

Hill recently responded to the allegations and explained on Tumblr that she failed to meet her tax obligations because she was "underground" trying to "build a community."

"For the past several years, I have remained what others would consider underground," she wrote. "I did this in order to build a community of people, like-minded in their desire for freedom and the right to pursue their goals and lives without being manipulated and controlled by a media-protected military industrial complex with a completely different agenda."

In addition, Hill noted that she previously alerted authorities about her reasons for failing to pay her taxes, but they did not comply with her wishes.

"I conveyed all of this when questioned as to why I did not file taxes during this time period," she wrote. "Obviously, the danger I faced was not accepted as reasonable grounds for deferring my tax payments, as authorities, who despite being told all of this, still chose to pursue action against me, as opposed to finding an alternative solution."