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Serial Killer Targets Wealthy Tax Evaders

Given our present political focus on the 99% versus 1% and the rise of a populist [Buffett](#) approach to taxes, it's no wonder if the wealthy are feeling a little uneasy. After all, they are already in the crosshairs for being haves in a time when the have-nots seem to have had enough. When you make their image even more negative by suggesting they are skirting tax rules, watch out.



Their tax behavior clearly will be scrutinized. See [Filing Taxes? Beware Sharp Increase In Audit Rates](#). This is so even if the tax planning they do is quite legitimate. They are likely to be criticized for not agreeing they should be paying higher taxes and not taking steps to simply fork over the cash.

This phenomenon is present in the tax collection process. We see websites listing tax debtors, a kind of modern day equivalent of putting people in the stocks in the town square. See [Your Tax Problems Are Now Everyone's Business](#). We also like to attack any claim, especially by a public figure or wealthy person that seems to smack of self-interest. See [Using John Edwards' "It Was A Gift" Defense](#).

In this climate, it should be no surprise that some people may go so far as to fantasize about killing off wealthy people who cheat on their taxes. A

case in point is the bestseller by Petros Markaris, entitled “I Pairaiosí,” or “The Settlement.” In it, a serial killer stalks and kills rich Greeks who have failed to pay their taxes! See [Crime writer Petros Markaris channels Greek rage into fiction](#).

The book is selling well in Greece, where a collapsing economy and government fuel the anger over anyone—especially the 1%—not paying their fair share. For the author, his dual role as thriller writer and social commentator has catapulted him into regularly commenting on the Greek crisis. But no matter how much Greece may have its own historical, cultural and economic idiosyncrasies, there’s something universal about this topic.

The police inspector who tracks the tax killer has a job to do. But he also shows a kind of admiration for the crimes and for the title the killer gives himself. This is no Zodiac Killer, Son of Sam, Hillside Strangler, or Angel of Death. This is the “National Tax Collector.” It almost sounds like the villain in a cheesy horror movie.

Still, it’s no joke that lax compliance and a plethora of legal and not-so-legal tax moves in Greece make taxes there far more voluntary than they should be. Coupled with the collapse of the economy and social fixtures, that could make the sight of some toff tooling around Athens in a Rolls Royce even harder to take than before. If you find out the snob is getting around paying some or all of his taxes, something could snap.

And snap it does big-time in Markaris’s new book. But despite the social commentary for which the author is developing a reputation, he wants to make the fictional nature of the book clear. Markaris slaps this American-style disclaimer on the back cover: “**Warning: This novel is not to be imitated.**”

For more, see:

[This Greek Bestseller Stars A Serial Killer Who Murders Rich People Who Cheat On Their Taxes](#)

[Beware More IRS Audits, Especially For Wealthy](#)

[Why Americans Want A Buffet Tax](#)

[Tony Blair Is Britain's Buffett As Top 50% Tax Rate Teeters](#)

[Mitt's Taxes Stoke "Carried Interest" Flames](#)

[Tony Blair Is Britain's Buffett As Top 50% Tax Rate Teeters](#)

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