



## News Release

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### Former Mora High School Principal Charged With Tax Crime

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced today that the Kanabec County Attorney’s Office recently charged Mark Wayne Antonson, 57, of Mora with four felonies, including one tax related felony. Antonson was the Mora High School principal and Director of Community Education at the time the alleged crimes were committed.

Antonson has been charged with three counts of theft and one count of filing a false tax return. He allegedly stole more than \$37,000 from public funds.

According to the criminal complaint, Antonson stole funds between 2005 and 2011 from registration fees and donations collected to support Mora Mustang Baseball.

Tax related charges relate to the money Antonson is accused of stealing. It was never reported as income in his tax returns between 2006 and 2011. Stolen money is considered income, regardless of how it is acquired.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue has a 24-hour tip line for anyone who suspects an individual or business is violating tax laws. That number is 651-297-5195, or 1-800-657-3500 (TTY users call 711 for Minnesota Relay). Tipsters may remain anonymous and can also email the department at [tax.fraud@state.mn.us](mailto:tax.fraud@state.mn.us). Last year, citizen tips totaled 75 percent of the department’s criminal case referrals.

While most taxpayers comply with tax laws voluntarily, the Minnesota Department of Revenue takes progressive enforcement action against non-compliant taxpayers ensuring tax laws are fairly administered, collecting no more and no less than taxpayers owe.

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