

News Release

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Attorney Charged With Tax Crimes

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced today that the Ramsey County Attorney’s Office recently charged Jason William McGee, 35, of Minneapolis, with eight tax felonies.

McGee has been charged with four counts of failing to file returns and four counts of failing to pay taxes.

According to the criminal complaint, McGee failed to file income tax returns for the years 2008 through 2011. Since becoming an Assistant Public Defender for Hennepin County in 2008, he claimed “exempt” on his W-4 forms, resulting in almost no taxes being withheld.

McGee allegedly owes the state more than \$9,800 in income taxes.

McGee was also audited after filing his 2007 tax return because his itemized deductions exceeded his wages for the year. As a result, the department levied his wages to satisfy his tax liability.

The charges carry a maximum penalty of up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

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. So far this year, citizen tips have totaled 80 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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