



## News Release

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### Brainerd man guilty in tax evasion case

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – A Crow Wing County jury found Ronald William Beattie Jr., 45, of Baxter, guilty on 35 tax related felony charges. Beattie was found guilty for failing to file and pay individual, sales and withholding taxes.

Beattie is the owner of Risky Business Novelties & Videos Inc. and Ultimate Limo Party Bus, Inc., both in Brainerd.

According to a criminal complaint, Beattie never paid sales tax or filed sales tax returns though he collected it from his customers. He also failed to file individual income tax returns and pay income tax to the state. Beattie also failed to file and pay withholding tax for each business. The charges stem from tax years 2005 through 2010.

In July 2012, Crow Wing County froze Beattie's assets and captured \$281,000 which was later applied to his sales tax debt.

Each charge is punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Sentencing will be March 22.

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). In 2012, citizen tips 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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