

News Release

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Richfield man charged with tax crimes

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office recently charged Shawn David Hanson, 35, with eight tax felonies.

Hanson has been charged with four counts of filing false tax returns and four counts of willfully failing to remit taxes.

According to the criminal complaint, between tax years 2006 and 2010, Hanson either inflated tax credits or failed to report income.

Hanson admitted he provided false information on his tax returns for tax years 2006 through 2010. He also admitted that he “came up” with numbers he put on his returns in order to pay some bills. He owes the state more than \$12,000 in tax, penalty and interest.

The charges each carry a maximum penalty of up to five years in prison and up to 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. 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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