



News Release

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Thief River Falls man charged with tax crimes

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the Pennington County Attorney's Office recently charged Gerald Laverne Sundahl, 52, of Thief River Falls, with six tax felonies.

Sundahl is charged with three counts of filing fraudulent tax returns and three counts of willfully failing to remit taxes.

According to the criminal complaint, Sundahl was Power of Attorney for his parents when more than \$250,000 had been withdrawn from their bank account and was unaccounted for. Sundahl wrote and cashed checks totaling this amount and allegedly admitted to spending most of the money at the casino.

During an investigation, the Minnesota Department of Revenue discovered that Sundahl failed to report the money on his tax returns for 2010 through 2012.

As a result, the complaint alleges that Sundahl owes the state more than \$34,000 in taxes, 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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