



News Release

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Plymouth man charged with tax crimes

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office recently charged Robert Doran, 50, of Plymouth, with twenty tax felonies.

Doran is charged with five counts of failing to file income tax returns, five counts of failing to file withholding tax returns and ten counts of failing to remit taxes.

According to the criminal complaint, Doran was the owner of Protero, Inc., a lawn equipment business, when he failed to file income tax returns and withholding tax returns for tax years 2007 through 2011.

During an investigation, the department found documents showing Doran’s annual income ranging between an estimated \$135,000 and \$398,000 during these years. The department estimates income tax owed is between \$5,000 and \$28,000 for each year.

The complaint alleges that in each quarter between 2007 and 2011, Protero, Inc. paid employees between an estimated \$50,000 and \$113,000 in wages. Tax returns show that the business withheld income from employee paychecks but did not send the money to the state. The tax due on those wages ranges between an estimated \$2,200 and \$6,400 per quarter.

In addition, Doran allegedly admitted he was behind on his taxes and understood he needed to file.

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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