

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 Scott Loeffel, of Richfield, with four tax-related felonies.

Loeffel is charged with four counts of filing fraudulent returns.

According to the criminal complaint, Loeffel inflated his withholding amount by \$1,000 to \$2,000 every year between 2008 and 2012.

The complaint states Loeffel admitted to department investigators that he intentionally changed some of the withholding amounts. He allegedly claimed \$8,800 in fraudulent withholding credits.

Each felony charge carries a maximum penalty of up to five years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine. Defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Although most taxpayers comply with tax laws voluntarily, the Minnesota Department of Revenue takes enforcement action against noncompliant taxpayers to ensure tax laws are fairly administered.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue has a 24-hour tip line for anyone who suspects a person or business is violating tax laws. That number is 651-297-5195, or 1-800-657-3500. Tipsters may remain anonymous and can also email the department at tax.fraud@state.mn.us. In 2014, 87 percent of the department’s criminal case referrals came from citizen tips.

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