



## News Release

**CONTACT** Lisa Erickson  
**PHONE** 651-556-6397  
**E-MAIL** [lisa.erickson@state.mn.us](mailto:lisa.erickson@state.mn.us)

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Phone: 651-556-6397  
[Lisa.erickson@state.mn.us](mailto:Lisa.erickson@state.mn.us)

### Columbia Heights man charged with tax crimes

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the Anoka County Attorney’s Office recently charged Ronald Earl Taylor, of Columbia Heights, with four tax-related felonies.

Taylor is charged with four counts of filing fraudulent returns.

According to the criminal complaint, Taylor inflated his withholding amount by at least \$4,000 every year between 2008 and 2011. He allegedly received \$10,958 in refunds during those years and was not entitled to them.

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](mailto:tax.fraud@state.mn.us). In 2014, 87 percent of the department’s criminal case referrals came from citizen tips.

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