



News Release

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Albert Lea man charged with multiple tax crimes

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the Freeborn County Attorney’s Office recently charged Troy L. Irvine of Albert Lea with several tax-related felonies.

Mr. Irvine was charged with six counts of attempting to evade the state’s tax laws and six counts of filing false or fraudulent income tax returns.

The complaint states that Mr. Irvine willfully attempted to evade income tax laws for tax years 2009 through 2014. According to the complaint, during those years, Mr. Irvine understated over \$112,000 in wages; he overstated more than \$34,000 in withholding amounts; and he falsely omitted over \$100,000 in pension income. According to the criminal complaint, the fraudulent Minnesota tax returns filed during the six year period resulted in Mr. Irvine owing over \$51,000 in taxes, penalties, and interest.

Each tax-related felony charge carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison, a \$10,000 fine, or both. 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 that tax laws are administered fairly.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue has a 24-hour tip line for anyone who suspects that a person or business is violating Minnesota tax laws. Local callers may dial 651-297-5195 or call toll-free by dialing 1-800-657-3500. Tips can also be submitted to the department by email at tax.fraud@state.mn.us. Tipsters may choose to remain anonymous. In 2014, 87 percent of the department’s criminal case referrals came from citizen tips.

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