



## News Release

**CONTACT** Ryan Brown  
**PHONE** 651-556-6750  
**E-MAIL** ryan.brown@state.mn.us

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

March 3, 2016

Contact: Ryan Brown  
[ryan.brown@state.mn.us](mailto:ryan.brown@state.mn.us)

### Eagan man charged with multiple tax crimes

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the Dakota County Attorney's Office recently charged Stephen Edward Matters of Eagan with several tax-related felonies.

Mr. Matters is charged with:

- 4 counts of failing to file income tax returns;
- 4 counts of failing to pay income tax;
- 4 counts of failing to file sales tax returns;
- 5 counts of failing to pay sales tax;
- 3 counts of failing to file withholding tax returns;
- 3 counts of failing to pay withholding tax; and
- 1 count of making retail sales after revocation of a permit.

The complaint states that Mr. Matters failed to file returns and pay income tax for the tax years 2011 through 2014. Mr. Matters failed to file returns and pay sales tax for his business, Matters Maintenance Group Inc., between September 2011 and July 2014, according to the complaint. The complaint further alleges that, while continuing to operate his business with a revoked sales tax permit, Mr. Matters failed to file withholding tax returns in 2012, 2013, and 2014 and failed to pay withholding tax for 2011, 2012, and 2013. According to the complaint, Mr. Matters failed to pay more than \$54,000 in sales and withholding taxes.

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

## News Release

**CONTACT** Ryan Brown  
**PHONE** 651-556-6750  
**E-MAIL** ryan.brown@state.mn.us

[tax.fraud@state.mn.us](mailto: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.

Get the latest news and updates from the Minnesota Department of Revenue by following the department on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) or by signing up for our [email subscription list](#).

###