

News Release

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Minneapolis woman charged with multiple tax crimes

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office recently charged Beth E. Allen, of Minneapolis, with six tax-related felonies and six tax-related gross misdemeanors.

Ms. Allen was charged with six felony counts of willfully failing to file income tax returns for tax years 2010 through 2015, and six gross misdemeanor counts of knowingly failing to file income tax returns for those same years.

Ms. Allen works as a professor of economics at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. While earning a salary that would require her to file and pay income taxes, Ms. Allen failed to withhold enough from her wages each year to cover her actual tax obligations, according to the complaint. The complaint states that in a voluntary interview with investigators, Ms. Allen acknowledged that she knew she needed to pay her taxes and knew she was behind on filing her tax returns.

Each tax-related felony charge carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison, a \$10,000 fine, or both. Each tax-related gross misdemeanor charge carries a maximum penalty of one year in prison, a \$3,000 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.

Many of the department’s criminal case referrals come from citizen tips. 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.

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