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Alamogordo Woman Charged with 180 Felony Tax Crimes

LAS CRUCES, N.M. – A woman from Alamogordo has been indicted for filing other people’s tax returns for the purpose of stealing their tax refunds.

Tanya Skoropad, 43, was charged with 49 counts of Tax Fraud, 43 counts of Forgery, 49 counts of Computer Access with Intent to Defraud or Embezzle, 32 counts of Identity Theft, and 7 counts of Embezzlement, a total of 180 felony charges. These charges carry a maximum sentence of 270 years in prison and a \$900,000 fine.

Skoropad was indicted by an Otero County Grand Jury in the 12th Judicial District of New Mexico.

“With tax season upon us, this indictment should serve as a reminder to those who would try to break our tax laws,” said Demesia Padilla, Cabinet Secretary for the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department. “This Department will not allow those who attempt to defraud taxpayers and the State of New Mexico to go unpunished.”

Skoropad attempted to defraud between \$24,500 and \$122,500 from the State of New Mexico.

Skoropad’s indictment follows last week’s indictments of Debra Quintana and Juan Chavez. Quintana, a tax preparer from Espanola, was indicted for filing false tax returns and for failing to pay taxes. Chavez, a Sunland Park smoke shop owner, was indicted for tax evasion.

This case was investigated by the Tax Fraud Investigations Division of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department and is being prosecuted by the Office of the 12th Judicial District Attorney. To report tax fraud against the State of New Mexico, call the Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-866-457-6789 or e-mail tax.fraud@state.nm.us.

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