



For Immediate Release  
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## ***Former CPA Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison for Embezzling from Non-Profit Organization***

**SANTA FE, NM** – A former Clovis CPA has been sentenced for embezzling from a not-for-profit organization in eastern New Mexico.

Charles Fleming, 56, pleaded guilty to three felony counts of embezzlement and one felony count of attempting to evade or defeat tax.

“We will aggressively pursue tax professionals that commit financial crimes,” said Demesia Padilla, Cabinet Secretary for the Taxation and Revenue Department. “This case should send the message to all tax professionals: they are not above the law.”

Fleming pleaded guilty for embezzling \$296,000 from the New Mexico Cattle Growers Foundation, where he served as treasurer from 2010-2011. Fleming disposed of the embezzled funds by paying personal expenses and business expenses for his private accounting firm in Clovis.

Fleming was sentenced by Ninth Judicial District Court Judge Donna Mowrer to 10 years of incarceration followed by five years of probation. Mowrer also ordered that Fleming pay restitution on all counts included in the indictment.

This case was investigated by the New Mexico State Police and the Tax Fraud Investigations Division of the Taxation and Revenue Department. To report tax fraud against the State of New Mexico, contact the Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-866-457-6789 or e-mail [tax.fraud@stste.nm.us](mailto:tax.fraud@stste.nm.us).

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