



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Taxation and Revenue Department
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Bill Richardson
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Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Santa Teresa Couple Indicted by Grand Jury on Ten Counts of Tax Fraud,
Filing False Statements and Conspiracy**

Las Cruces – On December 11, 2008, the Grand Jury of the Third Judicial District Court in Dona Ana County indicted a Santa Teresa couple, David E. Landess and Paula K. Landess on a total of ten felony counts. “. “This case serves as a reminder that everyone has a responsibility to pay their fair share of state income taxes,” remarked Rick Homans, Secretary of Taxation and Revenue. “Our Tax Fraud Division works to ensure that every New Mexican complies with the law.”

Mr. Landess, 62, is charged with two counts of willfully attempting to evade or defeat New Mexico Personal Income Tax for the tax years 2003 and 2004, one count of false statement and fraud for filing a false withholding statement and three counts of conspiracy – all felony counts.

Mrs. Landess, 55, is charged with two counts of willfully attempting to evade New Mexico Personal Income Tax for the tax years 2003 and 2004, and two counts of conspiracy – all felony counts.

If convicted, David Landess faces up to seven years in prison and up to \$25,000 in fines and Paula Landess faces up to five years in prison and up to \$20,000 in fines.

The case was a result of an investigation by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department’s Tax Fraud Investigations Division. The Department is currently conducting over 50 investigations throughout the State of New Mexico in a number of industries and occupations.

To report suspected tax fraud against the State of New Mexico, call the Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-866-457-6789.

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