



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Taxation and Revenue Department
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Tax Fraud Investigations
(505) 841-6544

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 21, 2012

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Repeat Tax Evader Indicted on Two Counts of Tax Evasion

SANTA FE - A repeat tax evader who once told a judge he stopped paying taxes at the advice of his accountant has been indicted again on tax evasion charges.

A Santa Fe grand jury on Tuesday returned an indictment against Phillip Sierra of Albuquerque on two counts of felony tax evasion charges. Sierra, 49, is accused of willfully attempting to evade his New Mexico personal income tax in 2006 and 2007.

In 2005, Sierra pleaded guilty to two counts of tax evasion for not paying his personal income taxes from 2001 through 2003. He was sentenced to three years of probation and ordered to pay all his taxes, including interests and penalties. Sierra told the court at the time that he had been advised by his tax preparer, who is not a CPA, that he was not required to pay taxes.

This case was investigated by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department's Tax Fraud Investigations Division. To report suspected tax fraud against the State of New Mexico, call the Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-866-457-6789.