



State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

2135 RIMROCK ROAD • Mail Stop 624A • P.O. BOX 8933 • MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8933 • 608-266-6466 • FAX (608) 266-5718
<http://www.revenue.wi.gov>

Scott Walker
Governor

Richard G. Chandler
Secretary of Revenue

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Laurel Patrick, (608) 266-2300

Day Care Used in Tax Fraud Scheme

Two Milwaukee women, Denitra T. Aldridge, 27, and Latoya Curtis, 38, were recently charged in Milwaukee County Circuit Court with conspiracy to commit theft by fraud in a scheme using fake wage statements that included the name of a former Milwaukee day care.

According to the criminal complaint, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families was investigating a Milwaukee day care on allegations of fraud against the Wisconsin Shares Program. Information discovered at the day care led to further investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

According to the criminal complaint, during the 2010 and 2011 tax years, Aldridge had prepared and/or filed fraudulent income tax returns for 30 or more persons by including fabricated or altered wage and withholding information (forms W2) or creating fictitious business schedules to enable these persons to receive tax refunds they were not entitled to. Several of these fake W2's used the name, or a version of the name, of Curtis' day care. Curtis also recruited a number of individuals to engage in this scheme.

Bank records linked Curtis and Aldridge together in nine of the false returns. In these false returns they attempted to obtain \$17,866 in state tax refunds, while Aldridge attempted to obtain an additional \$3,725, and Curtis \$25,000, in federal refunds.

If convicted, Aldridge faces up to ten years in prison and \$25,000 in fines while Curtis faces up to sixteen years in prison and \$35,000 in fines. Charges were filed by the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office after investigations conducted by the Wisconsin Departments of Revenue, Children and Families and Justice.

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