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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Former Janesville School Employee Faces 13 Felony Charges** *Felony Charges Include Tax Fraud*

Jessica Warner-Reed of Janesville is facing 13 felony charges including one count of Misconduct in Public Office, one count of Theft in a Business Setting over \$10,000, ten counts of Forgery, and one count of False Income Tax Return. Criminal charges were filed on January 25, and bail was set at \$5,000 cash bond for all charges. Warner-Reed is being prosecuted by the Rock County District Attorney's office following an investigation by the Janesville Police Department and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's Office of Criminal Investigation. Warner-Reed's preliminary hearing is scheduled for February 16.

According to the criminal complaint, during her employment with the Janesville School District, Warner-Reed was the banker for Craig High School. In this position, Warner-Reed was responsible for collecting money from advisors for various clubs, teams, groups and activities that occur at Craig High School, as well as depositing money in the bank/credit union.

The criminal complaint states that between January 1, 2009, and June 30, 2015, Warner-Reed deposited \$303,876.96 into her personal account. The complaint goes on to state that, according to the Department of Revenue analysis of banking records and investigative reports, Warner-Reed embezzled more than \$282,889 in cash and checks after repaying the schools account \$21,179. As required by federal law, all sources of gross income are required to be reported. The Wisconsin income taxes evaded from 2009-2014 is alleged to be \$16,407.

Under Wisconsin law, filing a false or fraudulent tax return is a felony. If convicted on the tax count, Warner-Reed could face up to six years in prison and \$10,000 in fines. If convicted on all 13 counts, Warner-Reed could face up to 79 years and 6 months in prison, as well as \$145,000 in fines.

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