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For Immediate Release

May 7, 2020

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Former Bookkeeper for Kiel Area Business Charged with Tax Crimes

Karen Schwind, of Kewaunee, Wisconsin, is facing charges after she allegedly stole from her employer and filed fraudulent tax returns. Schwind worked as the bookkeeper for a Kiel area business. Schwind was charged with two counts of fraud/rendering income tax return or obtain refund with fraudulent intent.

According to the [criminal complaint](#), Schwind altered QuickBooks records to make it appear as though a legitimate vendor had been paid when, in fact, the check was made payable to Schwind.

Also, according to the complaint, Schwind failed to report the income she embezzled from her employer during 2018 and 2019 on her income tax returns. Schwind embezzled over \$62,000 during 2018 and 2019 and evaded \$3,297 in taxes.

Charges were filed on April 28, 2020 by the Kewaunee County District Attorney's Office after an investigation by the City of Kiel Police Department and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's Office of Criminal Investigation. If convicted of all charges, Schwind could face up to 12 years in prison, \$20,000 in fines, or both.

The Department of Revenue, Office of Criminal Investigation investigates individuals who are suspected of committing tax crimes and the State of Wisconsin will prosecute criminals who engage in tax fraud.

To report tax fraud, go to the DOR website at www.revenue.wi.gov and click the "Report tax fraud" link under Quick Links.

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