



DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

**News Release**

**LINDA LINGLE**  
GOVERNOR

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FIRST EXTRADITION IN TAX CASE

HONOLULU—On June 14, 2007, a True Bill was returned from a Honolulu Grand Jury on Christopher Burns for three counts of false and fraudulent statements, two counts of theft in the first degree and one count of attempted theft in the first degree.

Pursuant to an arrest warrant, assistance was received from the Pinellas County Sheriffs in Largo, Florida where Christopher Burns was arrested on a bench warrant issued by the Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit, Honolulu, Hawaii for tax fraud. On August 17, 2007, Special Agents from the Office of the Attorney General extradited Christopher Burns to Hawai'i from Florida.

The false and fraudulent statements were committed when Burns filed his 2004, 2005 and 2006 State of Hawai'i individual income tax returns and claimed he had State employment taxes withheld of \$35,019, \$35,710 and \$75,260, when in fact the State employment taxes withheld were \$570, zero and zero for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006, respectively, in violation of §231-36(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

(more)

The theft in the first degree stemmed from the filing of false and fraudulent State of Hawai'i individual income tax returns for 2004 and 2005 where Burns received tax refunds, by deception, with intent to deprive the State of Hawaii of its property which exceeded \$20,000 for each of the years 2004 and 2005, in violation of §708-830(2) and 708-830.5(1)(a) of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

The attempted theft in the first degree stemmed from the filing of the false and fraudulent State of Hawai'i individual income tax return for 2006 where Burns attempted to received a tax refund, by deception, with intent to deprive the State of its property which exceeded \$20,000, in violation of §705-500(1)(b), 708-830(2) and 708-830.5(1)(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

Arraignment is scheduled before Judge Derrick Chan on August 23, 2007 at the Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit, Honolulu, Hawai'i.

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