



PRESS RELEASE

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PHOENIX MAN INDICTED FOR FAILING TO FILE TAX RETURNS

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on April 8, 2004 a federal grand jury in Phoenix, Arizona, returned a three count indictment against JOHN DELO NICHOLS, (DOB: 12/16/41), of Phoenix, Arizona.

The indictment alleges that Nichols willfully failed to make an income tax return to the Internal Revenue Service for calendar years 1997, 1998 and 1999 as required by law, even though Nichols had sufficient income. The indictment alleges that Nichols received gross income in the amounts of \$136,885.81 in 1997, \$267,491.64 in 1998 and \$565,163.39 in 1999.

The federal indictment charges Nichols with violating Title 26 of the United States Code, Section 7203, Willful Failure to File a Return.

A conviction for Failure to File a Tax Return carries a maximum penalty of not more than one year in prison, a \$25,000.00 fine or both.

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An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by special agents of the Criminal Investigation at the Internal Revenue Service.

The prosecution is being handled by Daniel Drake, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

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