



Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney James R. Klindt
Middle District of Florida

Tampa

Orlando

Jacksonville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAKELAND WOMAN INDICTED FOR TAX EVASION AND FAILURE TO FILE INCOME TAX RETURNS

Tampa, Florida - Acting United States Attorney James R. Klindt today announced the unsealing of an indictment of Nancy Montgomery Ware, a 43 year old resident of Lakeland, Florida, charging Montgomery Ware with income tax evasion and failure to file income tax returns. The maximum penalties Montgomery Ware faces if convicted on all counts are 13 years of imprisonment and a fine of \$800,000. She will make her initial appearance in federal court in Tampa today at 2:00 p. m. before Magistrate Mark A. Pizzo.

According to the Indictment, Montgomery Ware allegedly received approximately \$489,470 in taxable income during calendar year 2000 and approximately \$541,080 in taxable income during calendar year 2001. The indictment further alleges that she attempted to evade the income tax she owed by, among other things, filing Forms W-4 fraudulently claiming to be "exempt" from federal income tax withholding, attempting to conceal the nature and extent of her income by placing it in nominee bank accounts, making extensive use of cash to conduct transactions, instituting a frivolous lawsuit in an effort to stop her employer from withholding federal income tax from her paychecks, failing to file income tax returns, and failing to pay income tax owed to the Internal Revenue

Service. The Indictment also alleges that Montgomery Ware, who received approximately \$781,937 in gross income during calendar year 2002, approximately \$665,338 in gross income during calendar year 2003, and approximately \$567,831 in gross income during calendar year 2004, failed to file a federal income tax return for any of those years.

The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Rachelle DesVaux Bedke is prosecuting the case.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.