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# **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Otsego man indicted on 11 counts of filing false claims**

A 35-year-old Otsego man was indicted this week in federal court on 11 counts of false claims. Roland Chapaye Pour was charged on April 15 and made his initial appearance today in St. Paul.

Pour's indictment alleges that on 11 dates between Jan. 25, 2005, and Feb. 28, 2005, he made and presented claims against the United States for payment, which he knew to be false, fictitious and fraudulent, by preparing and causing to be prepared U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns.

The total refund on taxes claimed for the 11 individuals was \$55,454.

If convicted, Pour faces a potential maximum penalty of five years in prison on each count. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation Division. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney James E. Lackner.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.