

Department of Justice

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Western District of New York

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WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO
SUBSCRIBING TO A FALSE TAX RETURN

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. of the Western District of New York announced today that Joan Dispenza, 55, of Henderson, Nevada, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Court Chief Judge William M. Skretny, to a felony charge of subscribing to a false tax return. The charge carries a maximum penalty of a term of 3 years imprisonment, a term of supervised release of 1 year and a fine of \$250,000.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Maura K. O'Donnell, who handled the case, stated that for the years 2006 through 2009, the defendant filed tax returns understating the amount of income she received from her employment at the Ambulatory Surgery Center by \$50,114.00. During her employment at the Ambulatory Surgery Center, the defendant embezzled at least \$62,022 from Ambulatory Surgery Center, by writing unauthorized checks to herself from her employer's account. The defendant failed to disclose these funds on her federal income tax return.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service, under the direction of Special Agent-In-Charge Charles R. Pine.

Sentencing is scheduled for July 24, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in Buffalo, N.Y., in front of U.S. District Court Chief Judge William M. Skretny.

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