



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**09-097**

## **CORDOVA COUPLE INDICTED FOR FEDERAL TAX VIOLATIONS**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Karen L. Loeffler announced that James L. Jensen and Robin L. Jensen of Cordova, Alaska, were indicted by a federal grand jury in Anchorage on charges of evasion of tax payments, filing false income tax returns, and failure to file tax returns.

According to the 12-count indictment, James Jensen is a commercial fisherman, and James and Robin Jensen owned a cabin-rental business called Bear's Den Cabins. According to the charges in Count 1, James Jensen attempted to evade paying his taxes for years 1994, 1995, 1996, and 1997 – which by 2001, exceeded \$200,000 – by sending the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury a fictitious financial instrument called a “Bill of Exchange.” The indictment also alleges that he created a number of nominee entities, including a trust and two “corporation soles,” “Eyak River Ministries” and the “Rhema Foundation,” in an attempt to hide income and assets. Both corporation soles were established in Utah.

Counts 2-4 allege that for tax years 1998, 1999, and 2000, the Jensens filed income tax returns with false deductions and expenses that resulted in payment of no taxes. Finally, Counts 5-12 allege that tax years 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007, they failed to file income tax returns.

Assistant United States Attorney Bryan Schroder and Trial Attorney Ignacio Perez de la Cruz from the Department of Justice Tax Division, who presented the case to the grand jury, indicated that the law provides for a maximum total sentence of five years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, or both for Count 1; three years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, or both for each of Counts 2-4; and one year in prison, a \$100,000 fine, or both for each of Counts 5-12. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed will be based upon the seriousness of the offenses, including the total tax loss, and the prior criminal history, if any, of the defendants.

The Internal Revenue Service–Criminal Investigation conducted the investigation leading to the indictment in this case.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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