



# Department of Justice

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Northern District of California

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## **RICHMOND WOMAN CHARGED WITH SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD, IDENTITY THEFT, AND TAX CRIMES**

SAN FRANCISCO - A federal grand jury in San Francisco returned a superseding indictment today charging a Richmond, Calif., woman with fraudulent uses of another person's social security number, United States Attorney Melinda Haag and Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation, Marcus Williams announced. These charges were added to pending charges of tax evasion and bank fraud.

According to the indictment, Crystal Ann Poole evaded taxes due on income she earned from 1998 through 2010. More than \$227,000 is alleged to be due for tax years 1998 through 2004. For the remaining years, unspecified amounts of tax are alleged to be due on more than \$1.27 million dollars of income. Poole's alleged evasion includes failing to file returns with the IRS and pay her taxes, using the social security number of another to hide income and assets, and getting her employers to stop withholding taxes from her wages.

The bank fraud is alleged to have occurred in 2006, when Poole applied for a loan of \$335,000 from the Community Bank of Mississippi to buy a home in Florence, Miss. The indictment alleges that her application misrepresented her financial circumstances and supplied a false social security number. The added social-security-fraud and aggravated-identity-theft charges are based on Poole's use of that same social security number to buy a Lexus in 2007 and to open new bank accounts in 2008 and 2009.

The maximum statutory penalty for each count of tax evasion, in violation of Title 26 U.S.C. § 7201 is five years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. The maximum statutory penalty for each count of bank fraud, in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1344(1) and 1344(2) is 30 years in prison and a fine of \$1,000,000. The maximum statutory penalty for each count of social security fraud, in violation of Title 42 U.S.C. § 408(a)(7)B is five years in prison and a fine of \$250,000 and for each count of aggravated identity theft in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1028A(a)(1) is a two year mandatory minimum imprisonment to run consecutive to any other sentence and a \$250,000 fine. However, any sentence following conviction would be imposed by the court after consideration of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and the federal statute governing the imposition of a sentence, 18 U.S.C. § 3553.

*Please note: An indictment merely alleges that a crime has been committed. Poole is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.*

Brian Bailey and Katherine Wong, Trial Attorneys for the U.S. Department of Justice Tax Division are prosecuting the case with the assistance of Kathy Tat. The prosecution is the result of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation.

**Further Information:**

Case #: CR 12-0389 SI

A copy of this press release may be found on the U.S. Attorney's Office's Web site at [www.usdoj.gov/usao/can](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/can).

Electronic court filings and further procedural and docket information are available at <https://ecf.cand.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/login.pl>.

Judges' calendars with schedules for upcoming court hearings can be viewed on the court's Web site at [www.cand.uscourts.gov](http://www.cand.uscourts.gov).

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