

Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release
March 31, 2006

Birmingham Resident Arrested for Preparing Fraudulent State Tax Returns

Montgomery—Deborah A. Zuber Hendon, 54, of 713 Center Way S., Birmingham, Ala., was arrested March 20, 2006, on five counts of submitting fraudulent individual income tax returns or other documents to the Alabama Department of Revenue. Hendon was released on a \$500 bond.

Hendon is accused of providing fraudulent documentation and individual income tax returns to the Alabama Department of Revenue to substantiate tax refund claims for family members and herself. Hendon is also accused of preparing fraudulent documentation to substantiate fictitious returns filed by Hendon using variations of her name and other family members' names and social security numbers. Audits of these returns revealed false and altered documentation prepared and submitted to the department by Hendon.

The tax periods involved cover 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002 and involve approximately 13 Alabama tax returns. If convicted on all state tax charges, Hendon faces possible sentencing of one year in jail, and/or a fine of \$10,000 for each of the five counts, totaling a maximum of five years in jail, and/or \$50,000 in fines.

A court hearing has been set in Jefferson County District Court on April 6, 2006, at 9 a.m., before Judge Robert G. Cahill.

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