



Scott Walker
Governor

Richard G. Chandler
Secretary of Revenue

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CONTACT: Patty Mayers, Communications Director
608.266.2300 or DORCommunications@wisconsin.gov

Ashland Woman Charged with Numerous Felonies

*Charges Include Theft greater than \$10,000, Forgery
and Filing False Income Tax Returns*

Jill M. Kozitza, an Ashland resident, is facing forty-five felony charges related to embezzling from her employer while working as a bookkeeper. Kozitza was charged with one count of theft in a business setting, twenty counts of forgery, five counts of fraud/rendering income tax return, and nineteen counts of fraudulent writings.

According to the [criminal complaint](#), Kozitza wrote unauthorized checks to herself from her employer's accounts, forged the owner's signature, and then concealed the actual payee of the check by altering the records in the employer's accounting program. From March 2014 to March 2018, Kozitza wrote more than 140 unauthorized checks to herself, totaling \$228,822.

In addition, Kozitza filed false income tax returns for the years 2013 - 2017 by omitting taxable income. The amount of income Kozitza failed to report ranges from \$24,821 to \$105,082 per year. The source of the income was from either embezzlement, gambling winnings, or wages from other part-time employment, or a combination of the three, depending on the year.

Criminal charges were filed by the Ashland County District Attorney on September 27, 2018 following an investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue's Office of Criminal Investigation.

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