



SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR

CARING FOR NEW MEXICO

CATHERINE D. TORRES, M.D., CABINET SECRETARY

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Secretary Catherine Torres, M.D.

For immediate release:
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Contact: Aimee Barabe
Cell: 505.470.2290

Former Department of Health Employee Indicted on Charges of Embezzlement and Tax Fraud

(Santa Fe) – Former New Mexico Department of Health (DOH) employee, Yolanda Sisneros, was indicted by a grand jury in First Judicial District Court on charges of embezzlement and tax fraud. The DOH Office of Internal Audit conducted a full investigation into possible embezzlement charges beginning in December of 2008. After the Office of Internal Audit's investigation was complete, they turned their findings over to New Mexico State Police. The state police conducted their own investigation before turning their findings over to the New Mexico Department of Taxation and Revenue's Tax Fraud Investigations Division.

"The Department of Health commends our Office of Internal Audit for identifying the alleged crime committed by Ms. Sisneros," said Cabinet Secretary for the DOH, Dr. Catherine Torres. "After the investigation findings of all the state agencies, we are satisfied that this matter will now be handled by our state's criminal justice system."

On September 1, 2011, the grand jury returned an indictment for the following:

- Two fourth degree felony counts of Attempt to Evade or Defeat Tax in the amounts of \$2,811.00 (2007) and \$3,580.85 (2008)
- Two second degree felony counts of Embezzlement (2007 & 2008) for amounts totaling more than \$20,000
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The maximum sentence for the Embezzlement counts is 9 years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine per count. The maximum sentence for the Attempts to Evade or Defeat Tax is 18 months imprisonment and a \$5,000 fine per count.

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Office of the Secretary
1190 St. Francis Drive, N4100 • P.O. Box 26110 Santa Fe, New Mexico • 87502-6110
(505) 827-2613 • FAX: (505) 827-2530 • <http://www.nmhealth.org>