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News Release

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Salt Lake man faces 7 felony counts for fraudulently using sales tax refunds

State Tax Commission officers issued a summons Monday for a Salt Lake City man to appear in court as he faces seven felony tax fraud charges of fraudulent sales tax refunds.

Sione T. Vatuvei, 69, is president of a domestic non-profit corporation called Polynesian Community Services.

The state alleges Vatuvei requested sales tax refunds and cashed refund checks totaling \$131,004 since 2012.

“To generate that amount of sales tax his charitable organization would had to have made over \$1.9 million in taxable purchases,” said Tax Commission spokesperson Charlie Roberts.

Roberts said the Tax Commission investigation showed purchases were significantly below that amount. “We believe the refunds were used for personal expenses and not used for non-profit organization expenses.”

PCSO has also used the name “Illuminating Kavabowl Against Lost Ethos Club” over the years.

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