

White-Collar Crimes Land Former Arizona Lawmaker in Prison

By: Ashley D. Adams

<http://arizonawhitecollarcrimeattorney.com/>

Despite pleas for leniency from supporters, former Arizona state lawmaker Richard Miranda was sentenced to 27 months in jail last week for several [white-collar crimes](#). He was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$230,000.

As we previously reported on this blog, Miranda pleaded guilty in March to tax evasion and defrauding a local charity, Centro Adelante Campesino Inc. He admitted to initiating a scheme to wind down Centro, sell its remaining asset, and use the proceeds of the sale for personal expenses. He later evaded taxes on those profits.

Although Miranda resigned from the Arizona House of Representatives in February, many of his former colleagues advocated for leniency in advance of his sentencing. Current or former legislators who wrote letters on Miranda's behalf included ex-Rep. Martha Garcia (D-Phoenix), Rep. John Filmore (R-Apache Junction), former Sen. Vic Soltero (D-South Tucson), and Rep. Anna Tovar of Tolleson, the No. 2 Democrat in the House, according to [Fox News](#).

"This singular lapse in judgment should not define a lifetime rooted in concern for all people," wrote Tolleson Mayor Adolfo Gamez.

While Miranda was sentenced to prison time, it could have been much worse. The charge of wire fraud carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, while tax evasion carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison.

About Ashley D. Adams, PLC

At Ashley D. Adams, PLC, we have a well-established track record of success in false claim cases that can make a difference. For both organization defending against false claims charges and individuals pursuing qui tam claims, Ashley's background with the complex law is a substantial advantage.

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