



COUNTY OF YOLO
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JEFF W. REISIG, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AWARDED IDENTITY THEFT GRANT

Woodland, CA – The Yolo County District Attorney's Office has been awarded \$30,744 from the state Privacy and Piracy Fund administered by the California Attorney General's Office. The funds will be used to purchase computer and cellular phone forensic examination equipment to aid in the investigation and prosecution of identity theft crimes. The award covers the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

Two segments of Yolo County's population have been particularly hard hit by identity theft crimes – the elderly and the student population at the University of California at Davis. In the past year, the Elder Abuse Unit of the District Attorney's Office has charged 33 cases of financial/identity theft. These cases ranged from adult children removing their parent's name from property title documents to breaking up a scam ring run by prostitutes that targeted elderly men.

The University at Davis also produces a number of identity theft cases per year. Some cases involve students retrieving credit card applications out of the trash and using them to obtain cash. Other cases involve students in dorms being victimized by their roommates and non-residents who gain entry for the purpose of obtaining information for financial gain.

According to District Attorney Jeff Reising, "In the past we have had to wait for an out of county facility to process our requests of forensic computer and cell phone analysis. Now we will be able to prosecute offenders of identity theft in a more timely manner."

For more information, Contact Chief Deputy District Attorney Ann Hurd at (530) 666-8180.