



COUNTY OF YOLO
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 27, 2010

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WOODLAND COUPLE CONVICTED OF AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD

Woodland, CA - April 27, 2010 - On April 27, 2010, Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that on April 19, 2010, a Woodland couple, Maria Nuno and Jose Angel Dera Sandoval, pled guilty to Automobile Insurance Fraud.

Their case was referred to the District Attorney's Office on November 1, 2008 and was a part of a joint investigative operation called "Operation Cover Me." The operation involves the California Department of Insurance, and five other Sacramento Regional Counties. The purpose of this operation is to collectively investigate those cases where false information is given to an insurance company that may result in a payout on a claim for which there is no insurance.

On December 20, 2007, a 17 yr old driver, who was uninsured, was backing the family car out of a drive-way and struck another moving car. During the claims process, both the parents and the 17 year old told insurance company officials that the mother, Maria Nuno, was driving at the time of the collision, instead of the 17 year old. Investigators later determined that the 17 year old was the driver at the time of the collision.

District Attorney California Jeff Reisig said "Fraud like this causes us all to payer higher insurance premiums."

Lt. Dan Stroski, who supervises the Insurance Fraud Unit stated, "It is estimated by the National Insurance Crime Bureau that for every insured car in California, we pay an additional \$200 a year to cover the cost of fraudulent claims."

Yolo County Superior Court Judge Paul Richardson sentenced Maria Nuno and Jose Angel Dera Sandoval to serve 30 days in the County Jail, serve two years on summary court probation, pay restitution in the amount of \$2200, and pay a fine \$180.

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