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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 24, 2010 **Contact:** Lieutenant Steve Connor
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Yolo County Fraud Investigators Identify Over 47K in Public Money Theft

(Woodland, CA) – On June 25, 2010, Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that since February of 2010, the District Attorney’s Investigative Unit has uncovered evidence that over \$47,000 in public funds may have been misappropriated through fraud in the In Home Support Services (IHSS) program administered in Yolo County. The IHSS Fraud Unit was created earlier this year as part of a statewide effort to identify and eliminate fraud among IHSS providers and recipients. Due to limited funding for the project, only one investigator has been assigned to the caseload, which distributed over \$21,194,264.26 in public funds in the form of provider wages for Yolo County last year.

District Attorney Reisig stated: “Since the program began in February of this year, over 40 criminal investigations have been started, \$47,000 dollars in potential loss has been identified and hundreds of IHSS providers and recipients have attended classes designed to deter, detect and prevent IHSS fraud. We believe this program makes a difference in protecting taxpayers and urge the State and the County to continue to fund such anti-fraud efforts.”

Maryfrances Collins, Assistant Director at the Department of Employment and Social Services stated: “The IHSS Fraud Initiative has afforded our IHSS staff a great opportunity to work closely with the DA’s office to strengthen and streamline our fraud referral process. We have increased not only the number of referrals, but have been able to train County staff on how to look for and report fraud in the IHSS program, and to inform recipients and providers alike on how to identify and report fraud.”

For more information, contact Lieutenant Steve Connor at 530-661-2666.

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