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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DEFENDANTS PLEAD NO CONTEST TO \$1.5 MILLION DOLLAR SCAM OF
ELDERLY DAVIS COUPLE**

(Woodland, CA) – On August 20, 2010, Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that three defendants pled to charges accusing them of defrauding an elderly Davis couple of their life savings. The trio, consisting of the couple’s adult son, the son’s ex wife Jennifer Haskell, and a third party, Marlo Compton, used various ruses to coax the victims into wiring the group approximately \$1.5 million dollars in funds. These scams included telling the victims (falsely) that the son, who was in on the scam, was needed special medical treatments, was attending special schools and training and that he had been incarcerated for a car accident in England, and needed money for the defense of his case. All three defendants pled “no contest” to theft-related charges that included agreements to prison terms and the restitution of the money stolen from the victims.

The defendants were brought to justice in Yolo County because Davis Police Department Detective Michael Munoz, after building the case for several months, flew to the Midwestern United States, tracked down the defendants and arrested them on warrants. “The tragedy of theft from an elder is that the money taken often cannot be replaced,” commented prosecuting attorney Ryan Couzens. “We can hope from a conviction,” Couzens continued, “that the thieves may be held accountable and that the victims may begin the healing process.” District Attorney Jeff Reisig applauded the efforts of the Davis Police Department in investigating this complicated case and bringing the defendants to justice.

The case is set for sentencing before The Honorable Janet Gaard on October 1, 2010 in Department 8 of the Yolo County Superior Court.

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