



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

301 SECOND STREET - WOODLAND, CALIFORNIA 95695 - 530.666.8180 - FAX 530.666.8185

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** February 26, 2013      **Contact:** Jonathan Raven, Chief Deputy District Attorney  
**Phone:** Jonathan.raven@yolocounty.org

**Brentwood Man Sentenced to Five Years Prison for Embezzlement**

**(Woodland, CA)** - February 26, 2013 - District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that on February 22, 2013, the Honorable Stephen Mock sentenced 33-year-old Benjamin Chaney of Brentwood, CA to five years in state prison. In January, Chaney was convicted of grand theft, embezzlement, one "Aggravated White Collar Crime" enhancement, and two counts of state income tax evasion relating to theft from Chaney's employer.

Chaney had been employed as a Chief Financial Officer for Harper Model Home Maintenance, a company owned by his former mother and father-in-Law, which was based in Davis. Chaney embezzled over \$300,000 from his employer between 2003 and 2007 by paying his personal expenses with corporate funds and altering the records to cover the fraud. Chaney made unauthorized purchases for gifts, child-support payments, computers, furniture, appliances, mortgage payments and to buy assets for a competing business he intended to start.

Chaney, who was already making a six figure salary, also failed to claim the income on his personal income tax returns for 2006 and 2007, giving rise to tax liability.

Judge Mock ordered Chaney to pay restitution of more than \$340,000 to his former employer and more than \$67,000 to the State representing the unpaid tax, penalties, interest, and the cost of the tax investigation. Judge Mock also sentenced Chaney's wife, Kara Brown, to three years of felony probation for acting as an accessory to her husband's thefts.

###