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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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May is Older Americans Month

The Yolo County District Attorney's Office and other partners will be out talking to the community

In recognition of Older Americans Month, throughout this May, the Yolo County District Attorney's Elder Protection Unit will be out and about in the community raising awareness and teaching prevention. We have already been out this month to the following places:

- May 6, 2008 Fraud Awareness Presentation at Country Fair Estates Mobile Home Park in Dunnigan at 7:00 PM
- May 7, 2008 Fraud Awareness Presentation to the Yolo STRS Board 10:00 AM in Woodland

Coming up, look for us at the following events:

- May 20, 2008 ID Theft Awareness presentation and video at Lincoln Gardens Senior Apartments in Woodland at their Pot-luck
- May 30, 2008 Fraud Awareness Presentation at Cross Courts in Woodland for the Senior Breakfast club
- May 30, 2008 at West Sacramento Senior Center "Celebration of Older Americans"

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors kicked off Older Americans Month on Tuesday May 6, 2008 with a resolution presented to the District Attorney's Office and other Yolo County agencies that support Yolo County's older community members.

The impact of crime committed against older adults is profound. They are vulnerable to financial abuse, physical and sexual abuse, and emotional abuse, often at the hands of someone they love and trust. Between 1990 and 2020, the population aged 60 and above is expected to increase nearly 100% in Yolo County. Those 85 and older will increase nearly 200%. They are our parents, our grandparents, our beloved and respected friends and neighbors, and all the rest of us will likely be there too someday.

The problem is countywide and affects our cities, communities and each and every citizen. Victims of elder and dependant adult abuse crime run the full gamut of gender, race, religion and socio-economic status. Of course, we are all victims when we consider the financial cost to the community when dealing with adults left penniless and dependent upon social welfare or suffering severe physical injuries with costly medical bills for long term care and no way to pay for it themselves. And so we are all losers: individual victims, society, and of course, our elder adults.

District Attorney Jeff Reisig has pledged to work with law enforcement, county agencies that support the elderly members of the community, senior centers and other partners to help elder and dependant adults avoid becoming another statistic in the criminal justice system and to help family members learn how to spot signs of suspected abuse.

For more information contact Deputy District Attorney Jennifer Paredes at (530) 666-8180.