



# BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



**MICHAEL L. RAMSEY**  
District Attorney

**FRANCISCO R. ZARATE**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

**KORY L. HONEA**  
Chief Investigator

## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
November 2, 2010

### **Mother and Daughter Accused of Stealing \$190,000 from Welfare Program**

A mother and daughter from Redding, California were in Butte County Superior Court this morning and had a preliminary hearing set on fraud charges of stealing approximately \$190,000 from the In Home Support Services (IHSS) Program administered by the Butte County Welfare Department. The couple is accused of fraudulently claiming they did work for the program when they did not.

District Attorney Mike Ramsey said Garnett Ann Garrison, 56, and her daughter, Gaylee Ann Garrison, 29, had their preliminary hearing set for December 1, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. Ramsey said he had previously filed fraud charges against the couple for making false IHSS claims between January 2007 and April 2010.

The IHSS program, a state and federally funded program, is designed to help the elderly and disabled, who are at risk of being placed in long term care, stay in their homes by paying providers to assist them with the things they cannot do for themselves, such as light housekeeping, personal care, meal prep, errands and taking them to medical appointments.

District Attorney fraud investigators alleged that Garnett Garrison was a manager of a company that hired providers for the IHSS program and that she developed a complex system of falsifying time cards and payroll accounting records to divert money into her pocket. Ramsey said that her daughter Gaylee Garrison was an IHSS services provider working for her mother's company.

The investigation revealed both individuals were paid over a three-year period for services they did not provide. Garnett Garrison stole approximately \$90, 000 and Gaylee Garrison stole approximately \$100, 000. The two were fired from the mother's company shortly after discovery of the fraud scheme.