

GREGORY D. TOTTEN District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Date:

March 21, 2018

Release No.: 18-039

Ojai Woman Sentenced for Submitting Fraudulent Insurance Claims

VENTURA, California –District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Anna Maria Ruiz (DOB 10/20/1981) of Ojai, was sentenced to serve 210 days in the Ventura County jail for committing medical insurance fraud. In January 2018, Ruiz pled guilty to 11 counts of violating Penal Code section 550(a)(1), felony insurance fraud. In addition, she admitted an excessive taking allegation for stealing more than \$65,000 and an aggravated white-collar crime special allegation for taking more than \$100,000. This case was the result of an investigation by the Valencia Office of the California Department of Insurance.

From July 2011, to September 2013, Ruiz used her knowledge of medical billing to submit 30 fraudulent insurance claims to American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus (AFLAC). She received payments of \$127,710 for these completely fabricated insurance claims.

In addition to the jail sentence, Ruiz was placed on probation for 72 months and ordered to pay \$127,710 in restitution to AFLAC.

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The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.

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