



**GREGORY D. TOTTEN**  
**District Attorney**

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Former Treasurer of Ventura Police Community Foundation Arrested**

*VENTURA, California* – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Gale Hartman (DOB 03/14/1938), of Ventura, was arrested and charged with four felony counts of embezzlement.

Hartman, while Treasurer of the Ventura Police Community Foundation and a civilian employee of the Ventura Police Department, is believed to have stolen approximately \$119,000 from the Foundation by making systematic cash withdrawals over four years, using the Foundation's debit card.

This fraud was discovered by the Ventura Police Department and submitted for investigation to the Ventura County District Attorney's Office, Bureau of Investigation.

The maximum jail term to which Hartman can be sentenced is five years. The arraignment date is pending.

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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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