



GREGORY D. TOTTEN

District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Camarillo Man Sentenced to Jail for Thefts

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Michael Joseph Gomez (DOB 09/22/84), of Camarillo, was sentenced to 48 months in jail by Judge Bruce Young. Gomez will have to serve 16 months in custody and will be on supervised release for the balance of the sentence. He was also ordered to pay \$114,267 in restitution to Herzog Wine Cellars. In February 2019, Gomez pleaded guilty to four counts of felony grand theft.

Gomez worked for Tierra Sur Restaurant and Herzog Wine Cellars in Oxnard as a restaurant manager. Gomez used different schemes to steal cash that customers left as tips for wait staff. In his capacity as supervisor, he was able to manipulate entries so that the wait staff would be paid but the restaurant would appear to have received a gift card payment it never actually received. Gomez also fraudulently voided customer payments, then pocketed the cash for himself. Between March 24, 2014 and July 21, 2017 Gomez stole \$114,267. This case was investigated by the Oxnard Police Department and prosecuted by the District Attorney's Office Fraud and Technology Crimes Unit.

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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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