



GREGORY D. TOTTEN
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Oxnard Resident Charged in Theft from Multiple Victims

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today the filing of a criminal complaint against Ursula Nalley Ruiz-Madrid (DOB 4/16/1989) of Oxnard. The complaint alleges 14 felony counts of grand theft and forgery arising from the defendant's employment with two employers. The charges resulted from an investigation conducted by detectives with the Ojai Station of the Ventura County Sheriff's Office.

From July 2018 to September 2018, Ruiz-Madrid was employed as a bookkeeper by Ojai-based Haney Landscaping, Inc. Throughout her employment, Ruiz-Madrid stole from the business by secretly issuing herself large value checks, which she later negotiated by forging the signature of her employer. Ruiz-Madrid is accused of stealing approximately \$18,000 from Haney Landscaping by means of forging company checks.

From January 2019 to May 2019, Ruiz-Madrid was employed as the office manager for the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy (OVLC), a non-profit organization. Throughout her employment, Ruiz-Madrid stole from that organization in various ways, including: altering payroll records to inflate her wages; eliminating a required deduction for her health insurance from her paycheck, thereby passing the cost to the organization; using an OVLC credit card to pay her unauthorized personal expenses; and by stealing cash from the organization, including cash donations and cash receipts from the sale of merchandise at community events. The cumulative theft OVLC attributes to Ruiz-Madrid's multiple schemes totals approximately \$57,000.

Ruiz-Madrid was arrested on July 24, 2019. She currently remains in custody in the Ventura County jail. On July 26, 2019, Ruiz-Madrid entered not guilty pleas to the charges. Her case returns to court for a bail review hearing on July 30, 2019, at 1:30 p.m. in Division 13. If convicted of all charges, Ruiz-Madrid faces a maximum jail term of 11 years 8 months.

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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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