

ERIK NASARENKO District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Fillmore Labor-Contractor Sentenced for Workers' Compensation Fraud

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Robert Zermeno Delara (DOB 08/13/71), of Fillmore, was sentenced to 24 months of felony probation and 90 days in the Ventura County Jail for committing multiple counts of workers' compensation fraud.

Delara previously pled guilty on March 29, 2022, to felony workers' compensation fraud and admitted a special allegation that the theft totaled more than \$100,000. Delara is the owner-operator of two farm labor companies that provide harvesting and labor services to local agricultural producers. As part of his plea, Delara admitted that he had discouraged injured employees from obtaining medical care to which they were entitled. He also admitted to making material misrepresentations to his workers' compensation insurance carriers about the occurrence of such injuries to maintain low insurance premiums.

The District Attorney's Office Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit previously seized over \$1 million in Delara's bank accounts and assets in connection with the fraud. As a condition of his sentence, these assets will be liquidated to pay victim restitution and fines. Delara is scheduled for a restitution hearing on October 5, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 23 of the Ventura County Superior Court.

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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 290 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.