



ERIK NASARENKO
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE



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Ventura Man Charged with Felony Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud

VENTURA Calif. - The Ventura County District Attorney's Office announced today that Heriberto Baez (DOB 10/02/86), of Ventura, has been charged with two counts of felony workers' compensation insurance fraud and one count of felony attempted perjury.

Baez, who previously worked for a plastering company owned by a family member, is accused of filing a workers' compensation claim alleging he suffered a shoulder injury from a workplace fall, as well as cumulative trauma to his lower back.

During the claims process, Baez is alleged to have made false statements regarding the extent of his injuries and his ability to work. He claimed significant physical limitations and denied working after leaving his employment. However, investigators allege that surveillance video captured Baez performing physically demanding labor, including lifting heavy plaster bags, painting, bending, and climbing in and out of a truck bed. Baez is also accused of making false statements under oath during a deposition and misrepresenting his condition.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Joann Roth, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Special Prosecutions Workers' Compensation Unit, is prosecuting the case. The case was investigated by the California Department of Insurance. The total alleged loss in the case is more than \$62,000.

Baez's pled not guilty to all charges at today's arraignment. He is scheduled for an early disposition conference on June 12, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 12 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He remains out of custody on his own recognizance.

Case: 2025023302

Defendant Information:

Heriberto Baez (DOB 10/02/86)
Ventura

Charges:

- (2 counts) IC 1871.4(a)(1) – Insurance fraud
- PC 664/118 – Attempted perjury under oath