




GREGORY D. TOTTEN
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Career Real Estate Fraud Offender Found Guilty

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that James Anthony Rojas (DOB 1/11/57), of Riverside, was found guilty of nine felony counts, including foreclosure consultant fraud, grand theft, and recording false documents by Judge David Worley following a court trial. Judge Worley also found true a special allegation that Rojas caused losses exceeding \$500,000. The investigation and prosecution of Rojas was conducted by the District Attorney’s Real Estate Fraud Unit.

Rojas targeted real estate owned by five senior citizens in Ventura County. The victims range in age from 69 to 90 years old. Using various fraudulent schemes, Rojas targeted victim properties with false liens and deeds that clouded lawful title on each affected property. Rojas swindled one elderly victim by convincing him to sign a deed outside of escrow for property Rojas promised to purchase for \$1.8 million. Rojas then recorded the deed without paying the victim anything in return. Rojas has prior convictions for real estate fraud, including grand theft, forgery, and recording false documents, and also has similar cases pending against him in Alameda and Los Angeles Counties.

Rojas will be sentenced on March 4, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. in courtroom 47 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He faces a maximum possible sentence of 13 years 4 months in state prison. He will also be ordered to pay restitution to his victims in this case.

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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. Follow the Ventura County District Attorney’s Office on Twitter [@VenturaDAO](https://twitter.com/VenturaDAO)