



COUNTY OF FRESNO
District Attorney-Public Administrator
Lisa A. Smittcamp, District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 13, 2015

WOMAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR HOME LOAN MODIFICATION SCAM

Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp announced that on January 9, 2015, Vickie Fuentes was sentenced to 5 years local prison and ordered to pay restitution to 33 homeowners in the amount of \$142,599.99.

Fuentes targeted distressed homeowners, promising loan modifications by reducing their interest rate. Fuentes required the homeowner to pay an upfront fee and did little or no work. She kept mortgage payments made to her, and often forged documents making homeowners believe that their foreclosure sales had been cancelled. Several homeowners lost their homes due to Fuentes' actions.

The dedicated work of Deputy District Attorney Sydney Ricks and Senior Investigator Amarjeet Gill brought justice for Fuentes' victims.

Homeowners should be advised that loan modification services can be obtained free of charge by various non-profit entities and all mortgage payments should only be made directly to the lender.

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