



**Sacramento County
Department of Human Assistance
Department of Health and Human Services**

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News Release

Former Social Worker Pleads Guilty to IHSS Fraud
State prison and restitution ordered

Sacramento, CA. On Thursday, February 24, 2011, Julie Vue, a former Social Worker for the Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services pled guilty to one count of Grand Theft, with an enhancement for theft over \$200,000.00. She was sentenced to five years in state prison with credit for time already served, and was ordered to pay \$278,777.52 in restitution.

Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance (DHA) Criminal Investigators initiated the investigation and working with an IHSS Program Specialist conducted re-assessment interviews of 32 IHSS recipients who had fraudulent providers and hours on their cases. With the evidence in place, and teaming with the District Attorney's Office on the IHSS Task Force, charges were brought against Ms. Vue and she was arrested and extradited to Sacramento to stand trial.

Ms. Vue worked as a Social Worker in the In Home Support Services (IHSS) program between May 2006 and May 2008. Subsequent to her terminating her employment from the county, a co-worker became aware of possible fraud and reported it to the IHSS fraud investigation unit in DHA's Program Integrity Division. The investigation discovered approximately \$277,000 in potentially fraudulent payments involving Vue. She was arrested in Arkansas in July 2010, and was extradited to Sacramento in September 2010.

During her employment as an IHSS Social Worker, Vue altered the records of 41 IHSS recipients to steal money from the program and assigned false hours of care to 13 care providers. Falsified timesheets for the providers were submitted to IHSS for payment for work that was never done.

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