



Office of the

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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FORMER MORENO VALLEY RESIDENT ARRESTED FOR WORKERS' COMP FRAUD

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. – A former Moreno Valley resident who now lives in Denver, Colorado, was charged with one count of Workers' Compensation Fraud and one count of Concealment of, or Failure to, Disclose Material Fact Regarding Insurance Benefits.

In January of 2011, members of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, Workers' Compensation Fraud Prosecution Unit, began an investigation into allegations of possible Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud involving 43-year-old Eric Hinkle.

Hinkle reportedly sustained an industrial injury on January 6, 2009, when he claimed that he injured himself while loading and unloading aircraft for a local airlines where he was employed. As a result of his claim, Hinkle received Workers' Compensation benefits through the Company's Workers' Compensation Insurance.

According to the criminal complaint, Hinkle lied to a claims examiner about lifting large, heavy items while moving his household, which allowed him to continue to receive total temporary disability benefits. On October 19, 2011, an arrest warrant showing a bail amount of \$100,000.00 was issued for the arrest of Hinkle charging him with Insurance Fraud.

On November 2, 2011, Hinkle was arraigned at the Rancho Cucamonga Superior Court after agreeing to meet with Investigators from the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office. Hinkle was subsequently released on his own recognizance and the arrest warrant was recalled.

Hinkle is scheduled for a Pre-Preliminary Hearing on Dec. 6, 2011. The case will be prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Scott Byrd.

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