

For Immediate Release
January 2, 2009

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DA Campaign Places Fraud Warnings on Billboards Throughout San Diego County

Grant-Funded Billboards Take Aim at Workers' Comp Fraud

San Diego County District Attorney [Bonnie M. Dumanis](#) today announced a new public awareness campaign featuring 16 billboards placed across San Diego County aimed at curbing workers' compensation fraud. Workers' compensation fraud costs California consumers an estimated \$4 billion dollars every year and the DA's Office hopes the campaign will make people think twice before committing the crime.

"During difficult economic times like the ones we're facing now, workers' comp fraud has been shown to increase," said DA Dumanis. "This powerful anti-fraud message will be seen by an estimated one million people every day in San Diego County."

[Workers' compensation fraud](#) is committed by employees faking an injury; by employers denying employee benefits, failing to report accurate payroll or having no workers' compensation insurance at all; and by healthcare and legal providers billing for services not rendered.

"Insurance fraud is not a victimless crime and costs every Californian \$500 a year," said California Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner. "We must use every tool at our disposal to prosecute these scam artists and deter insurance fraud in all its forms. These billboards are a great way to remind the public that regardless of the economic climate, committing fraud is illegal."

The District Attorney's Office has an entire division dedicated to reducing insurance fraud that works closely with the California Department of Insurance to enhance public awareness, deter potential defrauders, and proactively investigate and prosecute insurance fraud.

Dennis Jay, Executive Director of the Washington D.C.-based [Coalition Against Insurance Fraud](#), praised the DA's proactive approach. "These billboards not only will help would-be fraudsters to think twice, but they also enlist the support of honest citizens. It is money well spent and District Attorney Dumanis should be commended for her vision in reaching out to the public."

(More)

The new public awareness campaign is funded through a grant from the California Workers' Compensation Fraud Assessment Commission and the [California Department of Insurance](#). Local outdoor advertising companies also significantly reduced their rates and contributed \$10,000 each to the campaign.

The billboards are scattered strategically across the County and will start to appear throughout the month of January. One of the first billboards is along westbound [Interstate 8 near the El Cajon Boulevard](#) exit in La Mesa. The public may contact the Insurance Fraud Division of the DA's Office with questions and can report suspected fraud at 800-315-7672.

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