



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 15, 2011
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Arthur Vivian Wilson Sentenced in Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud

On Friday, April 15, 2011, Arthur Vivian Wilson, 48, of Eureka, was sentenced to 30 days in the Humboldt County jail, three years probation and received fines totaling \$670 for knowingly making a false and fraudulent material statement and material misrepresentation with the specific intent of obtaining workers' compensation benefits that he was not entitled to receive.

Superior Court Judge Chris Wilson also scheduled a restitution ruling for April 25, 2011, when he will determine how much of the over \$50,000 Wilson will be ordered to return to the North Coast Schools Insurance Group. The group is a self-insured consortium made up of schools in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties and is funded using member schools' general funds.

"Workers' compensation fraud will not be tolerated in our community," noted Humboldt County District Attorney Paul Gallegos. "Workers' compensation insurance exists to provide for workers who are injured on the job. It is not an early retirement program for those that do not want to work."

In 2006, Wilson was employed as a life skills aide at Arcata High School when he submitted a workers' compensation claim that work-related injuries to his elbow and back were severely limiting his activity. The claim was investigated and the Humboldt County District Attorney's office charged Wilson with workers' compensation fraud when evidence indicated that Wilson's claim was fraudulent.

The case was successfully prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Mary McCarthy and investigated by District Attorney Investigator Mike Losey. This was a special prosecution by the Workers' Compensation Fraud Division.