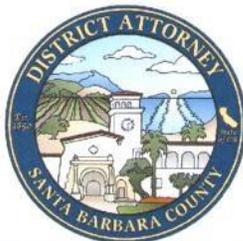


OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 12-223

RELEASE NUMBER

December 31, 2013

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Mai Trieu, Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT (805) 737-7764

***** PRESS RELEASE *****

December 31, 2013

Re: *People v. Gina Vrastil*

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley announced today that on December 30, 2013, Gina Vrastil, age 50, pled to 16 Felony Counts in connection with defrauding two local property management companies. Vrastil, of Santa Ynez, was charged with felony theft from an elder, felony perjury, and multiple counts of felony grand theft by embezzlement, forgery of checks, and preparing false documentary evidence.

An investigation conducted with the collaborative efforts of the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office and District Attorney Investigator Chris Clement revealed that Vrastil embezzled approximately \$45,000.00 from MGF Enterprises and MGF Property Management, Inc. of Solvang. Using her position as an Administrative Assistant with access to the companies' checkbooks and accounting program, Vrastil began writing herself unauthorized checks in August of 2011, then made false entries into the company books to hide those thefts. The crimes continued until July 2012 when they were discovered by the companies and reported to the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office.

There was no plea bargain between Vrastil and the District Attorney's Office in connection with her plea. Sentencing is set for March 3, 2014 in Department 7 of the Santa Barbara Superior Court in Santa Maria. Vrastil faces up to a maximum of 9 years 8 months in State Prison.

SANTA BARBARA OFFICE
1112 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2300
Fax (805) 568-2453

SANTA MARIA OFFICE
312-D East Cook Street
Santa Maria, CA 93454
(805) 346-7540
Fax (805) 346-7588

LOMPOC OFFICE
115 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, CA 93436
(805) 737-7760
Fax (805) 737-7732