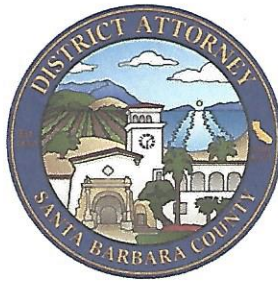
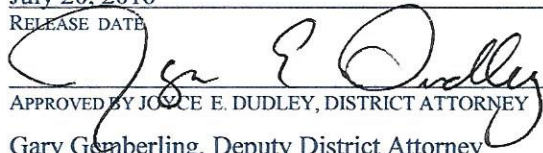


OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



DA 07-372  
RELEASE NUMBER  
July 20, 2016  
RELEASE DATE  
  
APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
Gary Gemberling, Deputy District Attorney  
CONTACT PERSON (805) 568-2372

\*\*\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*\*\*

July 20, 2016

**Re: *People v. Alberto Rodriguez*; Case No. 1472724**

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Alberto Rodriguez, 59 years old, of Santa Barbara, California, entered a plea to three felony counts and one misdemeanor count in Department 11 of the Santa Barbara Superior Court. Rodriguez's plea was to one felony count of Tax Fraud for filing a fraudulent tax return under Revenue and Taxation Code section 19705(a)(1); one felony count of Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud under Insurance Code section 1871.4; one felony count of Supplying False or Fraudulent Payroll Documentation under Unemployment Insurance Code section 2117.5; and one misdemeanor count of Labor Code section 1779.

The investigation into Rodriguez and his business, United Seal Coating and Slurry Seal, Inc., began in September of 2013 and was conducted by detectives from the California Department of Insurance along with investigators from the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office. At the time, Rodriguez was performing numerous Public Works contracts for the University of California, Santa Barbara. One of his workers was injured on the job and filed a workers' compensation claim. Rodriguez denied that the worker was his employee, which was later determined to be false. The investigation into the workers' compensation fraud charges led investigators to other criminal conduct by Rodriguez and his business.

Rodriguez will be sentenced on January 18, 2017, when it is expected he will be sentenced to one year in county jail and be ordered to pay restitution to the Employment Development Department in the amount of \$65,164.06; The Franchise Tax Board, \$24,298; State Compensation Insurance Fund, \$77,114.48; and FirstComp Insurance, \$2,496.54, for a total of \$169,073.08.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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

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