

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



DA 07-55

RELEASE NUMBER

July 28, 2011

RELEASE DATE

Joyce E. Dudley
APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Paula Waldman, Sr. Deputy District Attorney
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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

July 28, 2011

Re: *The People of the State of California v. Orson Mozes*
Prosecutor: Senior Deputy District Attorney Paula M. Waldman

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that over \$300,000 in seized monies from Orson Mozes would be distributed to the 59 victims of his crimes.

On July 2, 2009, Orson Mozes pled guilty to 17 counts of theft by false pretenses from illegal activities in his international adoption agency, Adoption International Program, AIP. As part of his sentence, Orson Mozes was sent to prison and released any rights that he had to over \$300,000 that was seized at the time of his arrest.

Although half of the money seized was distributed to the victims, the remaining amount was held up until July 26, 2011, due to an appeal filed on behalf of Orson Mozes's ex-wife who claimed that a substantial part of the amount seized belonged to her for back due spousal and child support. The Court of Appeals denied the appeal and the California Supreme Court declined to hear the case.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Paula M. Waldman stated, "This has been a long time coming and the victims have been incredibly patient. Now, the Court has made clear that restitution due to victims of crime takes priority when the seized monies were derived from a criminal enterprise."

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