



Riverside County District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION TO RECOGNIZE TWO DISTRICT ATTORNEY INVESTIGATORS

RIVERSIDE, CA: The California Peace Officers Association (CPOA) will recognize two Riverside County Senior District Attorney Investigators with the “Award of Distinction” during their annual award ceremony luncheon tomorrow, Tuesday, May 25, 2010, in Los Angeles.

Senior Investigators Brent Westwood and Craig Johnson, of the Major Fraud Unit, have been selected as this year’s recipients of the award. Westwood and Johnson have been assigned to large complex fraud cases involving securities, mortgage loans, embezzlements, money laundering, and many other complex financial crimes.

Westwood and Johnson were the lead investigators on the “Stonewood Investigation” which began in 2007. Following their investigation, the District Attorney’s Office and the United States Attorney’s Office filed 249 counts of securities fraud, grand theft, elder abuse and corporate ID theft against seven people in Riverside County. The crimes include the selling of fraudulent securities leading to a loss of more than \$17 million, as well as mortgage fraud leading to a loss of \$124.5 million throughout Riverside County.

“We have some of the most skilled and talented investigators working in our office to solve some of the most complex crimes,” said Riverside County District Attorney Rod Pacheco. “CPOA has appropriately recognized investigators Westwood and Johnson for the high level of excellence they dedicate to their cases.”

The CPOA serves the needs of professional law enforcement through issue exploration, resource development, educational opportunities, and legislative advocacy. CPOA has more than 3,000 members of all ranks from municipal, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies from throughout the state of California.

“CPOA is proud to support and recognize the fine men and women who fight crime in our state,” said John Standish, CPOA President. “We are honored to recognize those peace officers who make ongoing sacrifices and uphold their commitments to making our communities safer every single day.”

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