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CORRECTED
PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 9, 2009
Re: Charges filed for Forgery of Mortgage
Loan Documents from Bank of the West

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Lorna A. Martin, 28, of Escalon, and David A. George, 26, of Turlock, were arrested this morning on charges stemming from forgeries of mortgage loan documents from the Turlock branch of Bank of the West. George has been charged with three counts of Grand Theft, three counts of Forgery of Order for Payment, and three counts of False Financial Statements, while Martin was charged with two counts of each of the same violations. The charges stem from activity that occurred between December 6, 2006 and July 9, 2007. An internal investigation by the Bank of the West detected the fraud and the matter was forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for further investigation and review for criminal prosecution.

Please note that the previous press release stating charges for "embezzlement" were filed was in error.

Criminal charges are only allegations and defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.