

## COUNTY OF YOLO OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

## JEFF W. REISIG, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** April 23, 2020 Contact: YCDA Investigator Kristine Fitzgerald

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## GALT HUSBAND AND WIFE CONVICTED OF AUTO INSURANCE FRAUD

(Woodland, CA) – April 23, 2021 – Galt husband and wife, Lovepreet and Parwinder Randhawa, were convicted of filing a fraudulent auto insurance claim.

In February 2018, Officers with California Highway Patrol conducted an investigation into a collision which occurred on Interstate 80 in the Yolo County. Throughout the course of their investigation, it was determined the at-fault driver provided false information regarding his true identity. CHP determined the true identity of the driver who caused the collision had been Lovepreet Randhawa.

Lovepreet and his wife Parwinder subsequently filed a claim with Mercury Insurance for the damages sustained to their vehicle.

The Yolo County District Attorney's Office Auto Insurance Fraud Division provided assistance on follow-up investigation into the claim filed by the Randhawa's to Mercury Insurance. The DA's Office believed the Randhawa's committed insurance fraud when they reported the identity theft victim had been the person operating their vehicle when in fact Lovepreet had been the driver at the time of the collision.

On February 18, 2021, the Honorable Judge David Rosenberg sentenced Parwinder Randhawa to a misdemeanor violation of filing a fraudulent auto insurance claim and was placed on one-year probation.

On March 4, 2021, the Honorable Judge David Rosenberg ordered Lovepreet Randhawa to serve a split sentence of two years in local prison. Lovepreet and Parwinder Randhawa were ordered to pay over \$40,000 in restitution.

Insurance Fraud is the second costliest white-collar crime in America behind tax evasion. Insurance industry studies show that about ten percent or more of property/casualty claims are fraudulent. Add it all up and insurance fraud costs Americans billions of dollars each year. District Attorney Jeff Reisig stated that, "Filing false insurance claims and insurance fraud have an effect on the rising cost of auto insurance for everyone. We are committed to investigating and prosecuting this type of fraud in our community."

If you suspect someone is committing Auto Insurance Fraud please contact the DA's Fraud Hotline phone number at (855) 496-5632. Reports of suspected fraud can also be made online at www.yoloda.org. The District Attorney's Office also has a Fraud Reporting E-mail Address: <a href="mailto:fraud@yoloda.org">fraud@yoloda.org</a>.

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