

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



DA 10-64

RELEASE NUMBER

October 13, 2011

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Jerry Lulejian, Chief Deputy District Attorney

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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

October 13, 2011

Re: *The People of the State of California v. Earl Graham Ward, III*
Prosecutor: Jerry Lulejian, Chief Deputy District Attorney
Investigator: Jennifer Glimp, District Attorney Real Estate Fraud Investigator

Santa Maria real estate broker Earl Graham Ward, III, was sentenced to 16 months in State Prison today after pleading guilty earlier to two counts of Grand Theft by Embezzlement, based upon a form of real estate fraud.

Earl Graham Ward, III, was the owner/operator of Award Properties, a property management company located in Santa Maria. He was alleged to have collected rents from tenants and then failed to turn the money over to property owners. As a result of the investigation conducted by the Santa Barbara County District Attorney Real Estate Fraud Unit, Mr. Ward pled guilty to two felony counts of Grand Theft by Embezzlement, relinquished his real estate license, and was sentenced to 16 months in State Prison.

At sentencing Earl Graham Ward, III, was ordered to pay over \$100,000 in restitution to 17 victims. He was remanded into custody by the Sheriff's Department to begin serving his sentence.

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley remains committed to investigating and prosecuting local crimes involving real property.

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