## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY **District Attorney** 



DA 10-128 RELEASE NUMBER October 12, 2012 RELEASE DATE Manuel Almada, Deputy District Attorney (805) 346-7540

CONTACT PERSON

PRESS RELEASE

October 12, 2012

Re: People v. Jessica Lynn Orca: Real Estate Fraud Case

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Jessica Lynn Orca was convicted of 15 felony charges related to real estate fraud. The investigation, conducted by the District Attorney's Real Estate Fraud Unit, revealed that Jessica Orca offered to perform loan modification services for clients. She collected advanced fees from clients in violation of California law. In addition, Orca required that her clients provide her with money orders and cashier's checks which she told victims would go directly toward house payments and foreclosure services. The investigation revealed, however, that Orca embezzled her clients' funds for her personal use.

On October 11, 2012, Jessica Orca pled no contest to 12 felony counts of Grand Theft, 3 felony counts of Engaging in Prohibited Practices of a Foreclosure Consultant, and 2 misdemeanor counts of Unlawfully Collecting Advanced Fees. Judge Bullard indicated that he will sentence Orca to 7 years in prison. Due to California's new Public Safety Realignment Law, it is anticipated that Judge Bullard will order Orca to serve 2 years in local custody and serve the remaining 5 years under supervised release.

District Attorney Joyce Dudley wants to remind those in Santa Barbara County who are in danger of foreclosure, to only use licensed professionals and never pay up-front fees.

This case was investigated by District Attorney Investigator Jennifer Glimp and was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Manuel Almada.

\* \* \* \* \*