

# **\* NEWS RELEASE \***

## **SALINAS WOMAN TO PAY OVER \$15,000 IN RESTITUTION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Today's date: September 15, 2016**  
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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on June 15, 2016, Salinas resident Melissa Abbey, age 35, entered a plea of no contest to providing false information in order to obtain financial aid from the California Department of Health Care Services.

From August 12, 2013 through November 15, 2014 Abbey was receiving payments from Monterey County In Home Support Services to provide caregiving services for her daughter. After being alerted by a Monterey County Social Worker, it was learned that Abbey had not cared for or seen her daughter in two years. Abbey had fraudulently collected \$15,125 during that time period.

On July 20, 2016, Abbey was sentenced to felony probation. Additionally, on September 9, 2016, Monterey County Superior Court Judge Andrew Liu ordered Abbey pay \$15,125 in restitution to the California Department of Health Care Services.