

# **\* NEWS RELEASE \***

## **NOTARY PUBLIC SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR FELONY IDENTITY THEFT**

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**March 28, 2017**

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Nina Rose Maldonado, age 32 of Salinas, was sentenced to four years and eight months in local prison after pleading guilty to seven felony counts of identity theft.

Between January and August of 2016, Maldonado used the personal identifying information of family members, former clients, and strangers to open credit cards, bank accounts, and make online purchases without the consent or knowledge of the victims. Maldonado opened dozens of accounts in the names of some victims, which resulted in the destruction of their credit scores and subjected them to repeated harassment from creditors. While some of the victims were known to Maldonado, other victims reported that they did not know her and had no idea how she obtained their personal identifying information.

Maldonado had an active Notary Public commission during the period of these offenses, and worked in the home of at least one of the victims. She has also used the names Nina Rose Cabutage and Nina Rose Ribano.

After hearing victim impact statements from those whom Maldonado targeted, Judge Carrie M. Panetta sentenced her to four years and eight months in custody, with the last four months suspended on mandatory supervision.

Anyone who believes they have been a victim of Maldonado's is encouraged to contact the Salinas Police Department.

Salinas Police Detective Byron Gansen investigated the cases.