



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

JACKIE LACEY • District Attorney
SHARON J. MATSUMOTO • Chief Deputy District Attorney

JEAN GUCCIONE • Director

CONTACT:

Jane Robison
Public Information Officer
213-974-3525

June 19, 2013

Idaho Man Extradited in Multi-Million Dollar Fraud Case

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey announced today that a Sun Valley, Idaho, man is being extradited on charges that he and a co-defendant defrauded a prominent Los Angeles surgeon and inventor out of \$28 million over six years.

Neil David Campbell, 65 (dob 5-04-48), is expected to be arraigned on Friday at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center on 140 counts of grand theft of property. Campbell has been in custody on \$10 million bail since his June 7 arrest in Idaho.

Campbell and co-defendant Philip Richard Powers, 58 (dob 11-06-54), are charged with defrauding noted orthopedic surgeon Dr. Gary Michelson by encouraging him to invest in property in Costa Rica for teak farming. The pair allegedly inflated the price of land purchased between December 2000 and July 2006 and skimmed the difference, said Deputy District Attorney Robert Knowles of the White Collar Crime Division.

The District Attorney's office launched an investigation in May 2012. Campbell and Powers were charged on March 21 with 140 counts each of grand theft of property in case BA409225.

Powers, who was living in Costa Rica, was arraigned May 28 in Los Angeles Superior Court and pleaded not guilty. Powers, who is being held on \$2.5 million bail, returns to court July 12 in Department 30 to set a date for his preliminary hearing.

If convicted on all charges, each man faces more than 100 years in state prison.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.

18-1112 Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-3525