



# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 17, 2008

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## DEFENDANT SENTENCED ON AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD CASE

**Reno, NV**— Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto announced today that District Court Judge Brent Adams has sentenced Mohammed Alshehry, 28, of Reno in connection with staging an accident in September 2006 in order to use the insurance money to buy a new automobile.

Alshehry entered a plea of no contest to one count of Felony Insurance Fraud and was sentenced to serve 12 to 32 months in prison which was suspended under the terms of a plea agreement. As part of the suspended sentence, Judge Adams ordered Alshehry to be placed on probation for five years and to pay restitution in the amount of \$23,000.

An investigation by the Office of the Attorney General and the Reno Police Department revealed that Alshehry staged an accident in September 2006 by having his girlfriend drive a U-Haul truck into a parked 1999 Mercedes while his mother, Rachel Palma, was inside.

Witnesses to the crime came forward and stated that Alshehry had intentionally planned the crash to collect money from American Family Insurance.

Senior Deputy Attorney General Ronda Clifton, who prosecuted the case, stated there was overwhelming evidence of the crime committed by Alshehry that led to the plea agreement in August of this year. Although the insurance company for the rental truck denied Alshehry's claim, approximately \$14,000 was paid to the car's lien holder and an additional \$9,000 was paid to Alshehry's mother.

"Our office works diligently and in cooperation with other agencies against such fraudulent insurance claims," Attorney General Masto stated. "We believe that this sentence fits the crime in this case and should discourage others from such fraudulent scams."

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