



# Department of Justice

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Eastern District of California

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 2, 2009  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae)  
Docket #: 2:09-cr-0180-FCD

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## **RANCHO CORDOVA MAN SENTENCED FOR FRAUD SCHEME TARGETING OVER \$1 MILLION FROM BANKS**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — United States Attorney Lawrence G. Brown announced today that HUYEN T. LE, of Rancho Cordova, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Frank C. Damrell to three years and five months in prison followed by five years of supervised release. LE pleaded guilty to bank fraud and structuring financial transactions on May 4, 2009.

This case was the product of an investigation by an Internal Revenue Services' Financial Crimes Task Force, comprised of agents from IRS-Criminal Investigation, the Sacramento Police Department, the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, and Immigrations and Customs Enforcement.

According to Special Assistant United States Attorney Jean M. Hobler, who prosecuted the case, LE used credit cards belonging to another and his own business' merchant accounts to force transactions well over the cards' credit limits. In July and September 2008, LE attempted transactions totaling over \$1 million, and was successful in fraudulently obtaining over \$360,000 from various banks that issued the charge cards. LE then proceeded to shuffle the money among various accounts, invested some of the funds in two homes, and engaged in many cash transactions less than \$10,000 with banks in an attempt to avoid mandatory reporting on large-value cash transactions.

Judge Damrell, when sentencing LE addressed him, saying: "You acted irresponsibly, incurred debt, and did things that could have been resolved legally, but you chose not to. You chose to steal. No one imposed these burdens on you. You imposed them on yourself."

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