**PRESS RELEASE**

April 12, 2012

Free Seminar Offered to the Public

“Preventing Financial Abuse of Seniors and Tips on Coping With Dementia/Alzheimer’s”

The Santa Barbara County District Attorney’s Office, in conjunction with Senior Helpers, an organization that connects professional caregivers with seniors in our community, will offer a free seminar to the public on the topics of preventing financial abuse of seniors and tips on how to help caregivers and families cope with dementia/Alzheimer’s.

**Wednesday, April 25, 2012**

4:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Montecito Town Hall, Montecito Library, 1569 East Valley Road

From 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m., Mike Fasth, owner of Senior Helpers, and Patti Teel, director of community relations, will discuss a new program, “Senior Gems,” which is a step-by-step guide that teaches care providers and families how to care for loved ones through each stage of dementia and Alzheimer’s.

From 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., Senior Deputy District Attorney Vicki Johnson will present crime prevention tips for seniors on how to avoid identity theft, internet fraud, telemarketing and sweepstakes scams, and insurance and annuity fraud. The presentation will include information on cases that have been prosecuted by the District Attorney’s Office, and information on how to report suspected fraudulent activity when it occurs.

Attendees may attend one or both of the presentations, depending on their interest.

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