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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**REPEAT SCAMMER GETS SENTENCED  
TO 11 YEARS IN PRISON**

The Honorable Jeanne Schechter, Commissioner of the Merced Superior Court sentenced Jesse Munoz of Merced to 11 years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on Friday, after he plead no contest to five counts of diversion of construction funds and five counts of grand theft of personal property with a white collar criminal enhancement due to the amounts reaching over \$100,000, said Deputy District Attorney Walter Wall.

From May 2012 to December 2013 Munoz posed as a contractor, took deposits for his work, and would either start the job then disappear, or just not show up at all, said Wall. Munoz cheated over twenty people out of their money and caused financial hardships for many of his victims, Wall added.

"I trusted Munoz and I gave him the money," said Jesus Rojas, a victim of Munoz. "I am a hardworking man and earned my money by working hard. Munoz lied to me, betrayed my trust and stole from me."

This is the second time that Munoz has been convicted for scamming people out of money. In 2009 Munoz was sentenced to five years in state prison for 15 counts of theft by false pretense.