

## San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 16, 2011

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## TOW COMPANY SUED FOR ILLEGAL TOW PRACTICES Complaint Alleges 45 Illegal Practices by City Wide Towing, Inc.

**San Diego, CA:** The City Attorney's Office announced that City Wide Towing, Inc. and its manager, Arnoldo Rodriguez, were each charged with 45 criminal counts in a complaint (attached) filed in San Diego Superior Court.

The complaint is the second filed in criminal court against a local tow company in recent years. Last year, the owner of Gamma Towing and two Gamma Tow drivers pleaded guilty to multiple criminal charges alleging violations of state laws regulating tow practices. A warrant still remains outstanding in that case for another defendant, Leon Timmons, who failed to appear for arraignment.

The Arraignment date is January 19, 2012. Properties where the tows took place were both in San Diego: 6331 University Avenue and 5405 University Avenue.

The City Attorney's <u>Consumer & Environmental Protection Unit</u> (CEPU) prosecutes violations of law that arise from consumer transactions or actions that damage the environment. CEPU also investigates complaints of false or misleading advertising. Most cases handled by the Unit come from enforcement agencies or consumer complaints. To make a complaint, please call our hotline at (619) 533-5600 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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