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# Criminal Enforcement/Beverage Container Recycling Program: California Attorney General Files Felony Complaint Against Eight Individuals for Alleged Fraud

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The California Attorney General (“AG”) filed on July 19th a Felony Complaint for Arrest Warrant (“Complaint”) against eight individuals which included:

- Maria Ermelinda Saenz Gonzalez
- Francisco Balmore Amaya Saenz
- Jose Raul Chica
- Jose Antonio Interiano Martinez
- Jose Alfredo Giron Henriquez
- Victor Manuel Hernandez
- Manuela Rodriguez Rizo
- Genaro Solis Fuentes

(collectively “Individuals”)

The AG alleges that the suspect individuals defrauded California’s Beverage Container Recycling Program.

The California Beverage Container Recycling Program is administered by CalRecycle. The program’s California Redemption Value fee objective is to incentivize recycling at privately-owned centers with a 5- or 10-cent return on eligible beverage containers. California consumers subsidize this program every time they purchase eligible bottles and cans in the state.

Only material from California is eligible for redemption under this program.

The AG is stated to have initiated an investigation into a group of recycling centers in Riverside County operated by the individuals. The Complaint alleges that the individuals smuggled 178 tons of aluminum cans and plastic bottles from Arizona. They were allegedly then delivered to undocumented lots in Riverside County. \$7.6 million in California Redemption Value is alleged to have been unlawfully redeemed.

The felonies charged in the Complaint include:

- Recycling fraud
- Grand theft

- Conspiracy

A copy of the Complaint can be downloaded [here](#).