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Westly Delivers \$1.2 Million to Cover Peterson Trial Costs

MODESTO – State Controller Steve Westly today presented Stanislaus County, the city of Modesto and officials with a \$1,217,567 check to cover costs associated with the 6-month-long murder trial of Scott Peterson. Westly was also joined by Sharon Rocha, mother of victim Laci Peterson.

“Scott Peterson’s trial was a 7-digit hit to local law enforcement,” Controller Westly said. “The trial was an unprecedented event. Unfortunately, it caused unprecedented burdens on the police and courts. I hope this check for \$1,217,567 will help ease the burden and keep Modesto and Stanislaus County safe. This community shouldn’t pay the price for Scott Peterson’s crimes.”

Controller Westly previously delivered \$764,059 to cover the Stanislaus County cost incurred by the Peterson case. Today’s payment brings total area reimbursements to \$1,981,626.

“The Peterson trial was one of our most painful times in recent memory,” stated Jeff Grover, Supervisor for Stanislaus County. “Our appreciation goes out to the legislators and State officials like Senator Jeff Denham and Steve Westly who have fought on our behalf to help pay the huge expense of investigating and prosecuting this high-profile case.”

“This has been a difficult and costly investigation. Not just in dollar cost but in human cost,” Modesto Police Chief Roy Wasden said. “This investigation required the cooperation and coordination of over 90 law enforcement agencies and a tremendous effort by the Stanislaus County District Attorneys Office. I appreciate the tireless efforts of all who worked so hard on this, especially Senator Jeff Denham, State Controller Steve Westly and his dedicated staff. This will certainly help the citizens of Modesto with critical funding to provide essential services.”

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