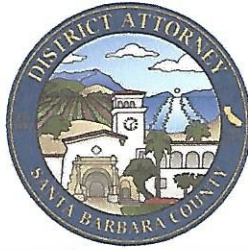


OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 08-420

RELEASE NUMBER

August 9, 2017

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Wesley Meyer, Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT (805) 568-2407

******* PRESS RELEASE *******

August 9, 2017

RE: *People v. Hamidullah Sarwary*
Case Number 1442831

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that a Santa Barbara jury found Hamidullah Sarwary, age 47, guilty as charged for the rape of an intoxicated woman.

The conviction stems from the late evening of July 31, 2013 when the victim, a 21-year-old female, became intoxicated at a Santa Barbara nightclub. A friend of the victim's escorted her out to State Street where Sarwary, a cab driver with West Beach Taxi Company, picked up the victim, was given \$20.00 from her friend, and asked him to take the victim home. Instead of taking her home, Sarwary took her to Shoreline Park where he climbed into the back of the cab and sexually assaulted her.

This jury found Sarwary guilty of Sexual Penetration of an Intoxicated Person, Rape of an Intoxicated Woman, and Assault with Intent to Commit Rape of an Intoxicated Woman. Sarwary now faces a prison sentence of up to 22 years.

District Attorney Dudley commended the courage of the victim/survivor, as well as the investigation conducted by the Santa Barbara Police Department and the prosecution team led by Deputy District Attorney Wesley Meyer. Dudley added, "This conviction will ensure that from this moment on the defendant won't be able to violate the safety and security of our community – or any other." Sarwary will be sentenced on August 29, 2017 by the Honorable Judge Michael Carrozzo in Department 12 of the Santa Barbara Superior Court.

SANTA BARBARA OFFICE
1112 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2300
Fax (805) 568-2453

SANTA MARIA OFFICE
312-D East Cook Street
Santa Maria, CA 93454
(805) 346-7540
Fax (805) 346-7588

LOMPOC OFFICE
115 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, CA 93436
(805) 737-7760
Fax (805) 737-7732