

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 03-94

RELEASE NUMBER

March 5, 2012

RELEASE DATE

Joyce E. Dudley
APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

A. Brooke Gerard, Deputy District Attorney
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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

March 5, 2012

Re: Elvia Tello vehicular manslaughter of Clarence Minetti

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley announced today that defendant Elvia Tello pled no contest to the felony charge of Vehicular Manslaughter with Gross Negligence. She will be sentenced on April 16, 2012. At the time of sentencing she will be ordered to serve 300 days in county jail. She will also be placed on probation for 5 years. Furthermore, she will have to pay restitution to the victim's family.

On March 25, 2011, Ms. Tello attempted to pass a commercial truck and trailer on a curved portion Betteravia Road. In order to make the pass, Ms. Tello crossed over a double yellow line on the curved portion of the roadway. Once crossing over the double yellow line, Ms. Tello hit a car traveling in the opposite direction. Clarence Minetti was the passenger in the car traveling in the opposite direction. He died as a result of injuries received during the collision.

District Attorney Joyce Dudley said, "This is yet another tragic example of how careless driving can kill. Sadly, if drivers don't follow our laws, lives will continue to be lost."

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