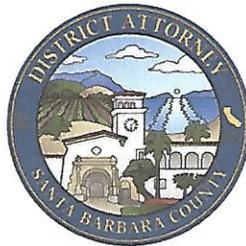


OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



DA 02-460

RELEASE NUMBER

February 1, 2018

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Wesley Meyer, Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT (805) 568-2407

\*\*\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*\*\*

**Re: *People v. Nicholas Burnell Hart; Case No. 18CR00753***

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Nicholas Burnell Hart has been charged, in an amended complaint, with Murder in the Second Degree, Gross Vehicular Manslaughter While Intoxicated, Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs Causing Injury with the Special Allegation that Death was Caused. Additionally, he was charged with Driving on a Suspended License.

These charges stem from events occurring on the evening of January 23, 2018, where it is alleged that Mr. Hart was driving a vehicle, under the influence of an intoxicating substance, and while doing so hit and struck a pedestrian crossing State Street at the intersection of Micheltorena Street.

The pedestrian has been identified as George "Ted" Johnson, age 91.

Mr. Johnson subsequently died on January 30, 2018.

Prior to Mr. Johnson's death, Mr. Hart was arraigned on felony charges of Driving Under the Influence and Causing Injury. In light of Mr. Johnson's death those charges were amended.

Mr. Hart was arraigned on the amended complaint in Department 10 of the Santa Barbara Superior Court on February 1, 2018.

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