

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



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RELEASE DATE

Joyce E. Dudley

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Benjamin Ladinig, Sr. Deputy District Attorney

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

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

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Nicholas Burnell Hart, age 27, was sentenced by the Honorable Michael J. Carrozzo to a combined prison sentence of 15 years and 8 months for the January 2018 killing of a 91 year old man who was crossing State Street when he was struck by the defendant, who was intoxicated.

On May 13, 2019, Mr. Hart pled guilty to Gross Vehicular Manslaughter and related charges and admitted violation of his probation cases. In addition, he waived approximately 26 months of custody credits.

The victim's family commented, "We appreciate the work of the Santa Barbara District Attorney's Office, their efforts in prosecuting Mr. Hart's case, and the resulting agreement which will serve as a form of justice for the despicable events that occurred."

District Attorney Dudley stated, "This successful prosecution was the result of an exemplary investigation conducted by members of the Santa Barbara Police Department and Senior Deputy District Attorney Ben Ladinig. Dudley further stated, "This case is another painful reminder of the extreme dangers of driving while intoxicated, which in this case resulted in a tragic loss of life."
