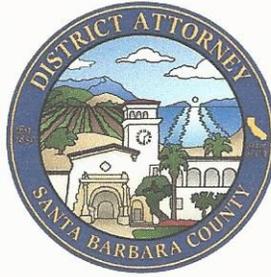


OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 08-319
RELEASE NUMBER
August 21, 2015
RELEASE DATE
John E. Dudley
APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Joyce E. Dudley, District Attorney
CONTACT PERSON (805) 568-2300

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

August 21, 2015

Re: In Re John Doe I and John Doe II

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that on Monday, August 24, 2015, there will be a filing of a juvenile petition against two fourteen year olds. This petition relates to a fire incident which occurred on February 28, 2015. This incident resulted in life-threatening injuries of a third fourteen year old. The two involved juveniles will face two felony counts related to these crimes. Count 1 is a violation of Penal Code section 451(a), Arson of Property. Count 2 is a violation of Penal Code section 245(a)(4), Assault by Means of Force Likely to Produce Great Bodily Injury.

Since the day of this tragedy, District Attorney Dudley has been meeting with the following individuals and agencies: members of the Santa Barbara Police Department, Santa Barbara Fire Department, the injured juvenile, his family members, and the charged juvenile's attorneys.

After careful consideration, an agreement with all parties has been reached. The charged juveniles will have an opportunity to admit their culpability, contribute to our community, and learn from this tragedy. The details of this contract have been articulated in a Pre-Plea Diversion Agreement. If each juvenile fulfills all the terms and conditions of this agreement by February 29, 2016, the District Attorney's Office will dismiss the charges. If either juvenile fails to complete all of the articulated terms and conditions, the case will proceed through the juvenile criminal system. In commenting on this case DA Dudley stated, "It is my hope that our community learns from this tragedy and that no other families have to suffer all of the catastrophic, lifelong consequences brought about by these crimes."

In order to answer any media questions, in an effort to further educate our community, a press conference will be held in front of the District Attorney's Office, 1112 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California, on Monday, August 24, 2015, at 11:45 a.m. The juveniles will be arraigned on September 3, 2015, in the south Santa Barbara County Juvenile Court.

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