

OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



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

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

April 23, 2012

**California Supreme Court Temporarily Stops the Release of a  
Convicted Sexually Violent Predator into Santa Barbara County**

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced that today, the **California Supreme Court stayed** the previous order to release Tibor Karsai to Santa Barbara County.

The order states as follows: "To permit consideration of the petition filed herein, the March 19, 2012 and March 29, 2012 order of the Placer County Superior Court in *People v. Tibor Karsai*, No. SCV19296, is stayed pending further order of this court."

On March 27, 2012, the Honorable James D. Garbolino, a Superior Court Judge in Placer County, issued a decision ordering Tiber Karsai, a sexually violent predator, be released into Santa Barbara County as a "transient" on or before April 16, 2012. Immediately after receiving that decision, District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley directed that a Writ of Mandate be filed with the Third District Court of Appeal in Sacramento challenging the decision. A Writ of Mandate is a request to a higher court for an order directing a lower court to take action. The District Attorney concluded that this extraordinary procedure was necessary to protect the residents of Santa Barbara County. The Writ of Mandate combined with a Request for Stay was filed by the District Attorney on April 2, 2012. On April 4, 2012, the Third District Court of Appeal granted the stay, which meant that Mr. Karsai would not be released on April 16, 2012.

After considering the merits of the case, on April 18, 2012, the Third District Court of Appeal denied the Santa Barbara District Attorney's request to keep convicted sexually violent predator Tibor Karsai from being released as a transient in Santa Barbara County. Having been notified of that decision, District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley could then send an appeal directly to the California Supreme Court.

Today, the California Supreme Court stayed the Third District Court of Appeal's order pending further order of the California Supreme Court. The California Supreme Court has up to 60 days to decide whether or not to grant review of the case. If review is granted, the Court will set a briefing schedule.

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