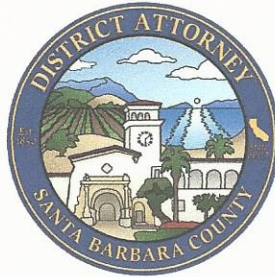


OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



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RELEASE NUMBER

December 10, 2014

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Paula Waldman, Senior Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT (805) 568-2371

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

December 10, 2014

Re: *The People of the State of California v. Manuel Peter Munoz*; Case #1441604

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Manuel Peter Munoz, age 65, was convicted of five felony counts of forcible child molestation against two separate victims, his relatives.

The jury trial against Mr. Munoz began in late October in front of the Honorable Judge Michael Carrozzo. The trial concluded after sixteen days and the jury began their deliberations on December 5. After 4 days of deliberations, the jury reached unanimous guilty verdicts on all five felony counts of forcible child molestation, violations of Penal Code section 288(b)(1).

Mr. Munoz will be sentenced on January 28, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., in Department 12, in front of the Honorable Michael Carrozzo presiding. Mr. Munoz is facing a sentence of 75 years to life.

The parents of both victims were present for the verdict and relieved by the result.

“I commend the bravery of the child victims for reporting these horrendous crimes and their willingness to testify about them,” stated Senior Deputy District Attorney Paula Waldman. Waldman continued, “I also applaud the children’s parents for trusting our criminal justice system.” “Now, because of the jurors’ good work, we will be able to keep a child molester out of the public and away from children for the rest of his life.”

□ SANTA BARBARA OFFICE
1112 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2300
Fax: (805) 568-2398

□ SANTA MARIA OFFICE
312-D East Cook Street
Santa Maria, CA 93454
(805) 346-7540
Fax: (805) 346-7588

□ LOMPOC OFFICE
115 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, CA 93436
(805) 737-7760
Fax: (805) 737-7732