

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



DA 07-0054

RELEASE NUMBER

July 25, 2011

RELEASE DATE

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

Paula Waldman, Sr. Deputy District Attorney
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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

July 25, 2011

Re: *The People of the State of California v. Samuel Martinez*
Prosecutor: Senior Deputy District Attorney Paula M. Waldman

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced that Samuel Joseph Martinez, Jr. was sentenced today to the maximum possible term of 14 years to life in prison for torturing an older homeless and mentally-ill woman. Samuel Martinez was convicted by a jury of torture, assault with intent to commit great bodily injury and of personally inflicting great bodily injury on July 1, 2011.

On July 22, 2006, Samuel Martinez came upon a homeless woman who was asleep on a bench in the area of Victoria and De La Vina Streets. He wanted to have sex with her but later said that he needed to move her to wash her off first. When Samuel Martinez couldn't move the victim, he became enraged and then beat her repeatedly with his fists and feet causing extensive injury to the victim including broken ribs, a broken nose, and a punctured lung. After Samuel Martinez left the victim for dead he went into hiding to avoid punishment. Samuel Martinez's sister later learned from her brother that he had committed this crime. The sister decided to disclose this information to the Police and worked with them to gather evidence from Samuel Martinez that eventually led to his arrest and conviction.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Paula M. Waldman stated, "Justice was served in this case today. An extremely dangerous man is now off the streets and the District Attorney's office will oppose every future parole release date to keep Mr. Martinez in prison for life."

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