

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



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*Joyce E. Dudley*

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\*\*\*\*\* **P R E S S   R E L E A S E** \*\*\*\*\*

September 29, 2016

**Re: *People v. Samuel Omar Becerra*; Case Number 1474234**

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Samuel Omar Becerra was convicted of Manufacturing of a Controlled Substance (Concentrated Cannabis) following a court trial before the Honorable Pauline Maxwell. The charge stemmed from a search conducted at the defendant's home on February 26, 2015, where evidence was found indicating that the defendant was illegally manufacturing concentrated cannabis or "honey oil" using butane gas. Sentencing in the case is scheduled for November 9, 2016.

Recognizing the predictable danger posed by those who manufacture concentrated cannabis using butane gas, District Attorney Dudley stated, "Life-altering fires and explosions are often caused by butane honey oil or 'BHO' operations wherein perpetrators habitually suffer facial burns and other serious injuries. Additionally, these explosions frequently occur in multi-unit dwellings and high density housing areas, putting entire communities at risk."

District Attorney Dudley went on to emphasize that the tremendous public safety risk from butane honey oil operations requires serious criminal consequences. "Those who manufacture butane honey oil," Dudley stated, "are subject to being prosecuted for numerous drug related charges, in addition to arson, which is both a lifelong registerable offense as well as a strike."

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