

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



DA 11-215

RELEASE NUMBER

November 22, 2013

RELEASE DATE

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

Kevin Weichbrod, Deputy District Attorney
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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

November 22, 2013

Re: People v. Evan Quinn Githens

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced that on November 21, 2013, Evan Quinn Githens pled, as charged, to four felony counts including Felony Child Endangerment, Vehicle Theft, Evading Officers with Willful Disregard for Public Safety, and Hit-and-Run Causing Injury. Githens further admitted to having been previously convicted of elder abuse and witness intimidation along with having served a prior prison sentence.

The charges stemmed from an incident occurring on October 7, 2013, where Mr. Githens was driving a stolen vehicle when officers attempted a traffic stop on US-101 at Las Positas Road. Mr. Githens led law enforcement on a high-speed chase through downtown Santa Barbara, running through stop signs and at times traveling 60-70 miles per hour on the wrong side of the road. The pursuit ended at De La Vina Street and Arrellaga Street where Mr. Githens struck several vehicles before fleeing the scene and ultimately being apprehended several blocks away. Inside Mr. Githens' vehicle during the pursuit was his girlfriend with two young children, ages six and four; neither child was seriously injured.

As a result of this plea Mr. Githens will serve 10 years in state prison. Sentencing is set for December 5, 2013.

Deputy District Attorney Kevin Weichbrod stated, "This case demonstrates the significant consequences associated with the callous behavior exhibited by the defendant and his utter indifference for public safety and law enforcement."

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