

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
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District Attorney



DA 02-92

RELEASE NUMBER

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RELEASE DATE

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APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

A. Brooke Gerard, Deputy District Attorney

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

February 28, 2012

Re: Orcutt Woman Ordered to Stand Trial on Sexual Assault Charges

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley announced today that at the conclusion of a preliminary hearing conducted February 27, 2012, Michele Ann Newberry was held to answer on all sixteen counts filed against the Orcutt woman. At the conclusion of testimony in the case, Santa Barbara Superior Court Judge Kay Kuns ruled there was sufficient evidence to hold Newberry to answer on four counts of lewd acts with a minor who was age fifteen at the time of the offenses, four counts of oral copulation of a minor under the age of sixteen, four counts of oral copulation of a minor under the age of eighteen, and four counts of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor.

The charges stemmed from an investigation by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office into Newberry's relationship with a minor boy from the time he was fifteen through the time he reached the age of majority. The sixteen charged offenses cover a two-year period between 2007 and 2009.

Newberry is due back in court on March 26, 2012, for arraignment on the post-preliminary hearing charging document.

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