

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



DA 10-62

RELEASE NUMBER

October 7, 2011

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Mary Barron, Sr. Deputy DA 805/568-2300

CA DOJ, Ofc of the AG, Press Secy 415/703-5837

CONTACTS

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

October 7, 2011

Re: *The People of the State of California v. Brian Michael Watt*
The People of the State of California v. Hugo Batalla Rendon
Prosecutor: Senior Deputy District Attorney Mary Barron

TWO CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS ARRESTED IN SEPARATE CASES INVOLVING ABUSE OF NURSING HOME RESIDENTS AT CENTRAL COAST NURSING CENTER IN SANTA BARBARA

Criminal charges have been filed against two Certified Nursing Assistants who were working at Central Coast Nursing Center, a skilled nursing facility located at 3880 Via Lucero, Santa Barbara, California. The cases were investigated by the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Bureau of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse.

BRIAN MICHAEL WATT, a 29 year old resident of Ventura, California, was arrested on September 9, 2011, pursuant to arrest warrant. He is charged with Count 1, lewd act on a dependent adult, a violation of Penal Code section 288(c)(2), a felony; Count 2, Penal Code section 243.4(b), sexual battery on an institutionalized victim, a felony; and Count 3, elder or dependent adult abuse in violation of Penal Code section 368(c), a misdemeanor. The crimes are alleged to have occurred on September 4, 2010, when Mr. Watt was employed as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Central Coast Nursing Center in Santa Barbara.

Mr. Watt is currently in custody in Santa Barbara County Jail and is scheduled to be arraigned in Santa Barbara Superior Court on October 28, 2011.

HUGO BATALLA RENDON, a 32 year old resident of Santa Barbara, California, was arrested on October 6, 2011, and booked into Santa Barbara County Jail. He was released on bail and is scheduled to appear in Santa Barbara Superior Court on November 4, 2011, for arraignment. Mr. Rendon is charged with four misdemeanor counts which are alleged to have occurred in May 2011 when he was employed as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Central Coast Nursing Center in Santa Barbara.

The charged offenses include battery of an elder or dependent adult in violation of Penal Code section 243.25; and elder or dependent adult abuse in violation of Penal Code section 368(c) involving a female nursing home resident on May 13, 2011. He is also charged with battery of an elder or dependent adult in violation of Penal Code section 243.25; and elder or dependent adult abuse in violation of Penal Code section 368(c) involving a male nursing home resident on or between May 17 to 18, 2011.

An "elder" means any person who is 65 years of age or older.

A "dependent adult" means any person who is between the ages of 18 and 64, who has physical or mental limitations which restrict his or her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his or her rights, including, but not limited to, persons who have physical or developmental disabilities or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished because of age.

A "dependent adult" also includes any person between the ages of 18 and 64 who is admitted as an inpatient to a 24-hour health facility, such as a hospital, convalescent home or rehabilitation facility.

###

□ SANTA BARBARA OFFICE
1112 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2300
Fax: (805) 568-2453

□ SANTA MARÍA 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