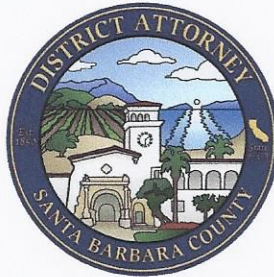


OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



DA 11-211

RELEASE NUMBER

November 7, 2013

RELEASE DATE

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

Sanford Horowitz, Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT (805) 568-2436

\* \* \* \* \* PRESS RELEASE \* \* \* \* \*

November 7, 2013

**Re: People v. Douglas John Stekkinger**

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that a jury found 48-year-old Douglas John Stekkinger of Santa Barbara, guilty of all charges and enhancements including Elder Abuse, Assault By Means Of Force Likely To Cause Great Bodily Injury and Battery With Serious Bodily Injury. He was also convicted of the special allegation that he personally inflicted great bodily injury on someone 70 years of age or older.

On April 12, 2012, Stekkinger brought his dog to a meeting at the Veteran's Memorial Building. The then 71-year-old victim put his hand on Stekkinger's shoulder and attempted to counsel him that dogs were not permitted on the premises during meetings. In response Stekkinger violently punched the victim in the face, shattering his cheekbone in three places. Stekkinger has now been convicted of 2 strikes and is presently facing a maximum of 9 years in state prison.

In response to the verdicts, prosecuting attorney Sandy Horowitz stated, "Today's verdict demonstrates that our community will not tolerate violence and will hold offenders responsible for their abhorrent criminal behavior." DA Dudley added, "Further, we will continue to file additional charges and enhancements when the violence is inflicted upon one of our vulnerable victims."

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