

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOHN T. SAVRNOCH
District Attorney



02-675

RELEASE NUMBER

February 17, 2023

RELEASE DATE

Lauren Franco, Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT NAME

(805) 568-2372

CONTACT PHONE

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

Re: People v. Virginio Gomez Santillan, 21CR04705

Santa Barbara County District Attorney John T. Savrnoch announced that on February 16, 2023 a jury found Virginio Gomez Santillan guilty of Assault with Intent to Commit Rape or Sexual Penetration while Committing a First-Degree Burglary in violation of Penal Code § 220(b), Sexual Penetration of an Unconscious Person in violation of Penal Code § 289(d), and sexual battery in violation of Penal Code § 243.4(e)(1).

In the early morning hours of July 22, 2021, Jane Doe was asleep in her bed with her young child. She woke up to the Defendant – her neighbor – on top of her. While she was asleep, the Defendant had broken into her house, pulled down her pajamas, climbed on top of her, and began to sexually assault her. Jane Doe fought the Defendant and he eventually left her apartment.

The Santa Barbara Police Department, led by Detective Adam Mik, conducted a thorough and extensive investigation, and placed the Defendant under arrest. The prosecution team was led by Deputy District Attorney Lauren Franco.

According to DA John Savrnoch, “Jane Doe testified at the trial, where she exhibited extraordinary bravery. By reporting the crime, and testifying at trial, the jury was able to hold this Defendant accountable for his actions.”

Sentencing is scheduled for April 20, 2023, in Department 6 of the Superior Court, before the Honorable Judge Pauline Maxwell. The Defendant is facing a sentence of 7 years to life in state prison.

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