

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOHN T. SAVRNOCH
District Attorney



09-812

RELEASE NUMBER

September 30, 2025

RELEASE DATE

Kevin Weichbrod, Senior Deputy District Attorney

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**District Attorney Files Murder Charges Against Santa Barbara Man for The Murder of his
72-Year-Old Mother**

Re: *People v. Christopher Lawrence Van Vlack*
Santa Barbara County Superior Court, Case No. 25CR08013

SANTA BARBARA, Calif., September 30, 2025 - Santa Barbara County District Attorney John T. Savrnoch announced today that charges have been filed against Christopher Van Vlack, a 32-year-old resident of Santa Barbara for the murder of his mother on September 28, 2025. Mr. Van Vlack is charged with First Degree Murder of his 72-year-old mother, Lynn Arenos, with Premeditation and Deliberation, and alleges the Special Circumstances that the murder was committed by means of lying in wait and/or for financial gain.

Mr. Van Vlack will be arraigned in Department 8 of the Santa Barbara Superior Court on October 1, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. Van Vlack is currently in custody at the Santa Barbara County Jail and is being held without bail.

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