

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOHN T. SAVRNOCH
District Attorney



12-821

RELEASE NUMBER

December 24, 2025

RELEASE DATE

Jordan Lockey, Senior Deputy District Attorney

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Ashlee Buzzard Charged with the Murder of Melodee Buzzard

Re: People v. Ashlee Buzzard

Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. 25CR10495

SANTA BARBARA, Calif., December 24, 2025 - Santa Barbara County District Attorney John T. Savrnoch announced today that a felony complaint has been filed against Ashlee Buzzard, 40, of Lompoc, California, charging her with one count of murder for the October 9, 2025, death of Melodee Buzzard. Ms. Buzzard faces special allegations of personally and intentionally discharging a firearm causing death and committing the murder by means of lying-in wait.

Ms. Buzzard will be arraigned in Santa Maria Superior Court Department 9 on December 26, 2025, and is being held in North County Branch Jail without bail.

District Attorney Savrnoch stated, "I would like to thank the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office for their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment in their search for Melodee, as well as the contributions all of the partner agencies which were integral in reaching this point, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the California Department of Justice; Santa Barbara County Child Welfare Services; Lompoc Unified School District; Santa Barbara County Search and Rescue; and numerous law enforcement agencies across Utah, Colorado, and Nebraska. In particular, I would like to recognize the Wayne County Utah Sheriff's Department, Wayne County Attorney Michael Winn, and the medical examiner in Wayne County for their efforts in this case."

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