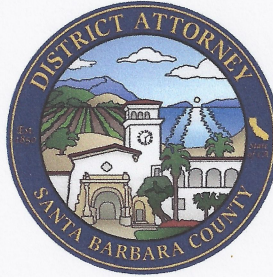


OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



DA 06-178

RELEASE NUMBER

July 15, 2013

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Benjamin T. Ladinig, Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT (805) 568-2300

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

July 15, 2013

**Re: *People v. Jose Vazquez Prestegui***

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Jose Vazquez Prestegui, age 41, was convicted, as charged, of committing nine separate acts of child molestation, rape, sodomy, and continuous sexual abuse on two minor children in both Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

These crimes were investigated and eventually solved through the joint efforts of the Santa Barbara Police Department, Oxnard Police Department, and the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office. Additionally, the Ventura County District Attorney's Office cooperated in allowing for venue for the crimes that occurred in the City of Oxnard to be prosecuted in the County of Santa Barbara.

In reaction to the verdicts, District Attorney Dudley stated, "I want to thank the jury for their patience and hard work throughout the trial. These verdicts were the result of the incredible courage demonstrated by the child victims, who bravely testified to the acts of sexual abuse committed by Jose Vazquez Prestegui. This successful prosecution is also due to the hard work and talent of Deputy District Attorney Benjamin Ladinig and all the law enforcement officers, from both counties, who worked tirelessly to ensure justice for these very vulnerable victims."

Mr. Prestegui will be sentenced on August 27, 2013, in Department 2, the Honorable Brian Hill presiding. He is facing approximately 135 years to life.

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