

OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



DA 02-639

RELEASE NUMBER

February 4, 2022

RELEASE DATE

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

***RE: People v. Howard W. Case# 17CR07379***

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced that late yesterday afternoon on February 3, 2022, in Department 1 of the Santa Barbara Superior Court, the Honorable Thomas R. Adams sentenced defendant Howard W., age 59, to 75 years to life, plus 3 years and 8 months in prison. This sentence followed a jury trial in late 2021 wherein a Santa Barbara jury found the defendant guilty of seven counts of child molestation committed on his two young victims.

Judge Adams also awarded the victims \$500,000.00 each in criminal restitution for the severe psychological harm they endured as a result of years of sexual abuse at the hands of the defendant. Their bravery in reporting the abuse by the defendant and courage in testifying at trial directly resulted in the jury's verdict. This verdict and sentence were also the result from the excellent investigation by the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department, and was in large part due to support from members of the Santa Barbara District Attorney's Office Victim Assistance Program and attorney Stacy Robinson of Legal Aid of Santa Barbara County.

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