



San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

NEWS RELEASE

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CITY ATTORNEY CRACKS DOWN ON OWNER OF UNLICENSED COMMUNITY CARE FACILITIES *Owner sentenced in criminal case brought by the Code Enforcement Unit*

San Diego, CA: A judge sentenced the owner of an unlicensed community care facility to 1 year in custody and ordered her to pay investigative costs over \$1,100 plus fees and a charitable contribution of \$1000 donation to the San Diego Police Foundation. Remy Broas, will have to serve 1 day in custody if she satisfies the terms of her probation and disassociates herself entirely from all community care facilities. The sentence came after she pleaded guilty to operating an unlicensed community care facility at 6377 Division Street, San Diego where there were excessive calls for police service. Aggressive criminal action was taken when a homicide occurred at this facility on August 10, 2008. The prosecutor, Deputy City Attorney Danna Nicholas, argued that Broas had illegally housed a number of tenants at the unlicensed Division Street facility and failed to provide them with adequate care and supervision.

Charges in the complaint included: causing or permitting a dependent adult to reside in an unsupervised residential facility such that the person's health and safety was endangered; maintaining a public nuisance; and various building and electrical violations. Broas was also charged with operating an unlicensed facility at 3560 Majestic Drive in San Diego. Alberto Broas, a family member, was also charged in the complaint with maintaining a nuisance facility, and zoning violations at 2231 Fowler Drive. He pleaded no contest on February 4, 2009, paid investigative costs, and can only operate a care facility on the condition he satisfactorily receive instruction and training in an approved course on the proper operation of an independent living facility. Code violations at the three properties included: illegal garage and dining room conversions which were used to house the elderly and mentally disabled tenants; unpermitted electrical systems; the use of extension cords in place of fixed wiring; unpermitted and dangerous structural work and plumbing systems; and various zoning violations.

Agencies that worked cooperatively on this case included the Department of Health and Human Services: Adult Care Licensing Division, San Diego Police Department, Neighborhood Code Compliance Division, the Attorney General's Office, and the City Attorney's Office .

San Diego City Attorney Jan Goldsmith said "We must make sure those people entrusted to care for the elderly and disabled are held accountable. These vulnerable members of society deserve safe and decent housing. Many care facilities are well run, but we will hold accountable those operators who fail to meet proper standards."

The Broas family owns 18 other properties and operates numerous community care facilities countywide.

This case was brought by the City Attorney's Code Enforcement Unit. The Unit works in partnership with the City's Neighborhood Code Compliance Division, the Police, and the community to identify and aggressively address problem properties and code violations. Community members can report property violations to the Neighborhood Code Compliance Division at 619-236-5500.

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