

ERIK NASARENKO District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Ventura Man Charged with Lewd Act upon a Child

VENTURA, *California* – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Ashley Lynn Claxton (DOB 09/21/95), of Ventura, has been charged with committing a lewd act upon a 14-year-old.

It is alleged that on May 21, 2022, Claxton contacted the minor victim at the intersection of Hill Street and Telephone Road in the city of Ventura. It is further alleged that Claxton walked alongside the victim and touched her in a sexual manner. Claxton was arrested by the Ventura Police Department on May 25, 2022.

Claxton was arraigned and pled not guilty on May 27, 2022. The case was continued to June 8, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 12 of the Ventura County Superior Court for an early disposition conference. Claxton is currently being held in custody at the Ventura County Jail on \$20,000 bail.

Based upon the nature of this offense, it is believed there may be additional victims or witnesses to wrongdoing by Claxton. Individuals with additional information regarding Claxton are encouraged to contact Ventura Police Detective Jorge Rodriguez at (805) 339-4443. A photo of Claxton is attached to this news release.

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The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 290 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.