



**GREGORY D. TOTTEN**  
**District Attorney**

**NEWS RELEASE**

vcdistrictattorney.com

Twitter: @VenturaDAOoffice

---

Contact: Rameen A. Minoui  
Senior Deputy District Attorney  
Telephone: 805-654-3067  
E-mail: Rameen.minoui@ventura.org  
Approved: GDT  
Date: March 29, 2018  
Release No.: 18-044

**Ventura Woman Sentenced to Prison For 2009 Killing of Her Aunt**

*VENTURA, California* – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced that Gina Drake (DOB 10/31/66), of Ventura, was sentenced by Judge Gilbert Romero to a term of 11 years in prison after being convicted by plea of voluntary manslaughter, a violent felony, for the killing of her aunt, Wendy DiRodio. Drake had also admitted using a knife during the commission of the homicide.

Ms. DiRodio's body was discovered on June 3, 2009, with multiple stab wounds. A lengthy investigation was conducted by the Ventura Police Department which led to the filing of criminal charges against Drake in May 2012.

###

The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.

Follow the Ventura County District Attorney's Office on Twitter @VenturaDAOoffice