



GREGORY D. TOTTE
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Joint Prosecution of Joseph James DeAngelo Announced by Six District Attorneys

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Joseph James DeAngelo will be prosecuted jointly in Sacramento County by a team of prosecutors from the Contra Costa, Orange, Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Tulare and Ventura County District Attorneys’ Offices. An amended complaint charging all crimes alleged against DeAngelo together in one case was filed today in Sacramento Superior Court. A copy of that amended 26-count complaint can be found here: (<https://www.vcdistrictattorney.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/DeAngelo-Filed-First-Amended-Complaint.pdf>).

DeAngelo now faces 13 counts of murder with special circumstances of: multiple murder, murder during the commission of rape, robbery, burglary, and enhancements for personal use of a firearm. The murders were committed between 1975 and 1986, including the 1980 Ventura County murders of Lyman and Charlene Smith. In addition, DeAngelo was also charged today with 13 felony counts of kidnapping to commit robbery with sentencing enhancements for personal use of a firearm and personal use of a knife during the commission of the offenses. Nine of those kidnappings are alleged to have occurred in Sacramento County in 1976 through 1977, and four kidnappings are alleged to have taken place in Contra Costa County in 1978 and 1979.

The unified filing in Sacramento is based upon the collective judgment of all six district attorneys. District Attorney Totten stated, “I have great confidence in the statewide team of prosecutors and investigators from these six jurisdictions. We are ready and determined to deliver the justice that has

cluded victims of the Golden State Killer and their loved ones for far too long.” Totten added, “The decision to charge crimes and allegations occurring in six separate counties solely in Sacramento Superior Court reflects our collective judgment that a single prosecution in a single jurisdiction serves the best interest of this case, its victims, and the cause of justice.”

DeAngelo is scheduled to be arraigned on the amended complaint in Department 61 of the Sacramento County Superior Court on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

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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 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.

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