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NEWS RELEASE



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Defendant Sentenced for Violent Assault Near Ventura Pier

Case #: 2021022398

VENTURA, Calif. - District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced the sentencing of a transient man who violently attacked a woman who was walking near the Ventura Pier.

Ernesto "Ernie" Estrada (DOB 04/08/61) was sentenced to 16 years in state prison after he pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon causing great bodily harm and admitted several special allegations, including having two prior violent felony convictions.

The incident took place on the Ventura boardwalk on August 25, 2021. Estrada attacked the 62-year-old victim with a metal pole, striking her in the face and head, while she walked with a friend. The victim is still recovering from her injuries and appears to be suffering from permanent nerve damage.

"This was a violent, vicious, and unprovoked attack on an innocent community member," said Senior Deputy District Attorney Theresa Pollara. "His actions require substantial punishment and accountability."

The Ventura County District Attorney's Office asked the court to impose 35 years to life in prison.

