



"PLANNING TO PROTECT, ACTING TO SAVE"

SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE

SAN DIEGO SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT (SAFE) TASK FORCE

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Sexually Violent Predator's Placement Hearing Date – May 10, 2021



The San Diego Superior Court has ordered the conditional release of Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) Merle Wakefield. If you live in the East County, the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH) has recommended the placement of Merle Wakefield at 10957 Horizon Hills Drive in Unincorporated El Cajon. He was convicted of sexual assaults dating back to the 1980's and 1990's.

While this address falls within the jurisdiction of the Rancho San Diego Sheriff's Station, **NEITHER THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OR THE SEXUAL ASSAULT FELONY ENFORCEMENT (SAFE) TASK FORCE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SELECTION OF THE PROPOSED SITE. THAT SELECTION PROCESS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DSH AND THE SAN DIEGO SUPERIOR COURT.**

Due to current COVID-19 health concerns, a placement hearing will be held via ZOOM. Comments will be accepted during this hearing on:

May 10, 2021
9:00 a.m.
San Diego Superior Court
Virtually (Department 2201)
San Diego, CA 92101

Via ZOOM (phone or computer)

Computer link: <https://sd1502.zoom.us/j/89983572692>

Webinar ID: 899 8357 2692

iPhone One-tap: +14086380968,,899 835 72692# US or +16699006833,,89983572692# US

By Telephone: +1408 638 0968 or +1 699 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592. **Webinar ID:** 899 8357 2692

With the hearing scheduled for May 10, 2021, the SAFE Task Force will be accepting public comments about the proposed placement to be included in the formal response to the court.

Comments will be accepted between the dates of April 12 and April 26, 2021.

You can e-mail your comments to: sdsafe@sdsheriff.org. You can also call (858) 495-3619. You can mail your comments to:

SVP/Release/SAFE Task Force
9425 Chesapeake Drive
San Diego, CA 92123

For more information about the legal designation, treatment and release from confined facilities of sexually violent predators, visit the San Diego County District Attorney's website <http://www.sdca.org>. You can also visit the Department of State Hospital's website <http://www.dsh.ca.gov>.

To learn about the SAFE Task Force, <https://www.sdsheriff.net/safe/>.
