



Riverside County District Attorney

CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

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FORMER MALE NURSE ORDERED TO STAND TRIAL ON CHARGES HE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED THREE FEMALE PATIENTS AT A MURRIETA HOSPITAL

MURRIETA – Today, March 7, 2013, a Riverside County Superior Court judge found there is enough evidence for a former male nurse to stand trial on charges he sexually assaulted three patients while he worked at Rancho Springs Medical Center in Murrieta.

Paul Robert Simon, DOB: 8-9-59, of Murrieta, is facing six felonies in case SWF1300076. He is charged with three counts each of sexual battery on a medically incapacitated person and of lewd acts by a caretaker on a dependent adult. He faces a maximum of eight years in prison if convicted as now charged.

A sixth count was added to an amended complaint today before the beginning of the preliminary hearing. Previously, the complaint involved two victims. The new count alleges that a third female victim was sexually assaulted by Simon in late 2009 or early 2010. That sexual assault was reportedly witnessed by a nurse at the hospital.

In April 2009, a woman was admitted to Rancho Springs Medical Center and briefly was on life-support. When she awoke, she had difficulty moving her body but was mentally alert. It is alleged that Simon, her assigned nurse, went to her bedside and used the woman's hand to masturbate him. Another time, Simon reportedly touched the same victim inappropriately during a time he was bathing her. In August 2010, another woman was admitted to the hospital and was unconscious when Simon was seen by at least one other nurse reportedly inappropriately touching a woman's upper thigh area under her hospital gown.

Simon's employment was subsequently terminated by the hospital.

A preliminary hearing is held for a judge to hear evidence and testimony and then determine whether there is enough evidence for a defendant to stand trial and, if so, on what charges.

Today, Judge Mark Mandio found there was sufficient evidence for Simon to stand trial on all six counts. Simon was ordered to return for an information arraignment on the six counts on March 21, 2013, in Dept. S202 at the Southwest Justice Center in Murrieta.