



Riverside County District Attorney

CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

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JUDGE ORDERS WOMAN TO STAND TRIAL ON CHARGES SHE SOLICITED TO HAVE TWO FORMER BOYFRIENDS MURDERED

RIVERSIDE – Today, Aug. 5, 2013, a Riverside County Superior Court judge found there was sufficient evidence for a woman to stand trial on charges she solicited two people to murder two of her former boyfriends.

Barbara Wu, DOB: 7-22-91, of Riverside was ordered to stand trial on five felonies and two misdemeanors. The felonies include two counts of solicitation to commit murder and one of stalking.

Today, Judge Charles Koosed ruled there was sufficient evidence for Wu to stand trial on the seven counts. The judge made the decision after hearing testimony at a preliminary hearing that began Friday, Aug. 2, 2013.

Wu was ordered to return for an information arraignment on Aug. 22, 2013, in Dept. 33 at the Hall of Justice in Riverside. If convicted as currently charged, Wu faces up to 15 years in prison.

Wu is accused of soliciting a man she was dating earlier this year to murder one of her former boyfriends who she dated while attending the University of California, Riverside.

After media reports of that aspect of the case were reported, a second man who also used to date Wu contacted UCR police because he thought was the intended target. He advised police that, while he was dating Wu in 2009 and 2010, she asked him to kill another former boyfriend.

A preliminary hearing is held so a judge can hear testimony and evidence in a criminal case to determine if there is sufficient evidence for a defendant to stand trial and, if so, on what charges.

Initially, Wu was charged with one additional felony stalking count – listed as count eight in the first amended complaint. However, at the conclusion of the preliminary hearing, the DA's Office asked that the judge not make a holding order on that count.

The case, RIF1304552, is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Nicole Marian.