

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-38**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
OPPOSING THE PLANNED RELEASE OF A SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATOR INTO SAN  
BERNARDINO COUNTY**

On Tuesday, April 6, 2021, on motion of Supervisor Rowe, duly seconded by Supervisor Cook and carried, the following resolution is adopted by the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County, State of California.

**WHEREAS**, In February 2021, the San Bernardino County District Attorney and the San Bernardino County Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator received notification from the State of California-Department of State Hospitals informing them that the Orange County Superior Court has ordered the conditional release of one Lawtis Donald Rhoden and that the State has proposed the City of Twentynine Palms within San Bernardino County as a location for this release;

**WHEREAS**, According to the letter from the Department of State Hospitals, Mr. Rhoden is serving an indeterminate commitment under the Sexually Violent Predator Act, Welfare & Institutions Code sections 6600 et. Seq, and is defined by the State under State Law as a "Sexually Violent Predator";

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rhoden has been confined for many years as a result of convictions for heinous offenses committed in Los Angeles and Orange counties, including rape by force, forceful sexual penetration, and sexual battery which were committed against children;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rhoden has committed similar violent sexual offenses, including rape of children in the states of Tennessee and Florida;

**WHEREAS**, According to the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, Mr. Rhoden has no known family, history of residency, employment, treatment in or any other ties to San Bernardino County;

**WHEREAS**, A core mission of the Board of Supervisors is to help protect the people of San Bernardino County.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino strongly opposes the release of Lawtis Donald Rhoden into any community within San Bernardino County, and supports and joins efforts by the District Attorney and Sheriff/Coroner/Public Administrator to prevent the release of Lawtis Donald Rhoden into any community within San Bernardino County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino, State of California, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS: Col. Paul Cook (Ret.), Janice Rutherford, Dawn Rowe,  
Curt Hagman, Joe Baca, Jr.

NOES: SUPERVISORS: None

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS: None

\* \* \* \* \*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA                    )  
  )       ss.  
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO        )

I, **LYNNA MONELL**, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino, State of California, hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of the record of the action taken by the Board of Supervisors, by vote of the members present, as the same appears in the Official Minutes of said Board at its meeting of April 6, 2021. #4 LA

LYNNA MONELL  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy