

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-141**

**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 July 27, 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**, On July 19, 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 once again proposed a community within San Bernardino County, Newberry Springs Community Services District, as a location for this release;

**WHEREAS**, 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 sex offenses committed in Los Angeles and Orange counties, including rape by force, forceful sexual penetration, and sexual battery which were committed against female children between the ages of 13-18;

**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**, Liberty Healthcare is putting at risk and disregarding the safety of the residents of San Bernardino County by attempting to release a sexual predator into a county to which the perpetrator has no ties;

**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 San Bernardino County, 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

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA                    )  
  )  
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY            )       ss.

I, **LYNNA MONELL**, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County, 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 July 27, 2021. Item #4, CCM.

LYNNA MONELL  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By \_\_\_\_\_

