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MEDIA ADVISTORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Schapiro Convicted of Felony Vandalism at Tehachapi Hospital
People v. Matthew Schapiro: Kern County Superior Court Case MF015359A

(Bakersfield) - Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a felony conviction yesterday. On January 22, 2025, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Victor Ghaly, a Kern County jury found Matthew Schapiro, guilty of Felony Vandalism. Schapiro was acquitted of charges related to resisting arrest.

On April 21, 2023, Tehachapi Police Officers were dispatched to the Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley Hospital regarding a patient, Matthew Schapiro, who was causing a disturbance. Schapiro was in an I.C.U. room while a hospital security guard was keeping the sliding glass door secured. Upon arrival, Officers observed Schapiro screaming and actively destroying the I.C.U. room by breaking a dual pane window, as well as pictures on the walls and medical equipment. Schapiro destroyed the hospital bed by forcing and breaking the rails off, and urinating on the walls. In total, Schapiro caused thousands of dollars in damages to hospital property. Responding officers made entry into the room and took Schapiro into custody.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "Hospital staff play a crucial role in protecting and caring for critical patients. While they dedicated themselves to this vital work, Schapiro's actions intervened by posing a danger to everyone around him. Such behavior is unacceptable and warrants legal consequences."

Sentencing is set for February 21, 2025, before the Honorable Brian McNamara in Department 7 of the Kern County Superior Court. Schapiro faces up to 6 years in prison.

Matthew Schapiro:

