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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bail Denied For Alleged Repeat Downtown Vandal
People v. Chuck Dooley: Kern County Superior Court Cases:
25BFA00088
25BFA00188
BF206847A
BF206707A
BF205852A
25BFA00204
BV017918A

(Bakersfield) - District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant development in a series of cases impacting downtown Bakersfield. Chuck Dooley faces charges spanning from multiple arrests that include alleged violations of Health and Safety Code Section 11395, a new law passed by Proposition 36 regarding unlawful possession of hard drugs with two or more prior convictions, as well as multiple felony vandalism charges. The charges include Dooley's alleged vandalism of water lines and sprinkler systems in the downtown corridor at multiple public buildings, including at the Kern County Hall of Records and the Kern County Superior Court Building at 1415 Truxtun Avenue.

Since his release from prison to Post Release Community Supervision in late June of 2025, Dooley has been charged with six separate incidents involving drug possession, vandalism, and multiple failures to appear in court. The first such arrest came less than two weeks after his release from prison on a previous vandalism conviction that included vandalism of the Kern County Superior Court's sprinkler and water lines, as well as vandalism of the Vietnam War Memorial located to the front of the Superior Court building.

Among Dooley's multiple arrests since June is a vandalism arrest in September of 2025, where Dooley is alleged to have destroyed sprinklers, sprinkler lines, and sprinkler controls at the Superior Court building, resulting in extensive flooding to building's offices and courtrooms, accounting for an estimated \$300,000 in damages. The allegations are charged in case BF206847A.

Despite no less than six felony arrests, either on new charges or on arrest warrants for failing to appear as promised after being released on existing charges, every time Dooley was arrested between July and September of 2025, he was almost immediately released from the Kern County Jail, prior to arraignment, and without any requirement that bail be posted. Such releases rely only on the suspect's 'promise to appear' in court. As a result, today's arraignment – the first arrest for which he was not immediately released -- was the first time Dooley's cases were brought before a judge for appropriate bail setting.

Judge Tiffany Organ-Bowles found that no setting of bail would be appropriate in light of the continuing risk to public safety and pattern of failures to appear and denied bail on all of the cases. Dooley is expected to be arraigned on additional charges, including multiple counts of willful failure to appear in case 25BFA00204 in the coming weeks. The denial of bail should ensure that Dooley is held in custody pending the outcome of the multiple pending cases.

Dooley's cases are next scheduled for Pre-Preliminary hearing on October 29, 2025, and Preliminary Hearing on October 30, 2025. Dooley, like all persons charged with a crime, is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.