



SANTA CRUZ
COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION
DR. FARIS SABBABH • SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 •
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Mr. Ed Acosta • Ms. Alyssa Alto • Ms. Rose Filicetti • Ms. Sandra Nichols
Ms. Sue Roth • Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen

RESOLUTION #21-15
RESOLUTION DECLARING BONNY DOON TO BE A GROSSLY INAPPROPRIATE
SETTING FOR THE RELEASE OF A SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATOR

WHEREAS, the State of California is proposing the supervised release of a legally designated “sexually violent predator” to reside in Bonny Doon, California; and

WHEREAS, this individual was convicted of the 1980 violent abduction and sexual assault of a Santa Cruz woman he met at Seabright Beach, among other serious crimes including rape of a minor; and

WHEREAS, this individual has no other known connections to Santa Cruz County or the Bonny Doon community; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Sheriff and Santa Cruz County District Attorney have stated they oppose this individual’s placement in Bonny Doon; and

WHEREAS, California’s Sexually Violent Predator Act designates sexually violent predators as too dangerous to be released freely into general society given their risk of reoffending, thereby requiring heavy surveillance, continuous electronic monitoring, mandated distancing from reasonable opportunities to commit additional violent sexual crime, and residential placement that does not present an undue hazard to the public; and

WHEREAS, Bonny Doon is a remote, heavily wooded, rural residential area where houses are disbursed, often obscured from one another by forest, and residents travel trails that pass through neighbors’ backyards; and

WHEREAS, it is not clear how the intensive supervision, continuous electronic monitoring and surveillance statutorily required for a violent sex predator would be possible in Bonny Doon due to a widespread lack of cell service, limited internet access, regular multi-day power outages that cut telecommunications; and

WHEREAS, Bonny Doon’s remote location could make it difficult for this individual to access the supervision and treatment stipulated under the violent sex predator rehabilitation program; and

WHEREAS, lack of cell service and frequent telecommunications outages can make calling for emergency help in Bonny Doon difficult and at times impossible; and

WHEREAS, the placement of this individual in Bonny Doon would reasonably impose a chronic fear for safety in its residents because adequate monitoring may not be possible, particularly when the power is out; and

WHEREAS, the residence in question is less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from an elementary school bus stop; and

WHEREAS, that reasonable fear could prevent vulnerable residents, especially women and children, from travelling their neighborhood streets and trails on foot and cause others considerable anxiety while doing so; and

WHEREAS, one year ago the Bonny Doon community was ravaged by the loss of nearly a third of its homes in the CZU fire, among the worst natural disasters in Santa Cruz County history; and

WHEREAS, Bonny Doon residents continue to feel acute trauma from the CZU fire; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Education is concerned about any such placements of sexually violent predators in family neighborhoods.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed residential placement of this particular individual in Bonny Doon would raise legitimate physical and psychological safety concerns for its residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bonny Doon is a grossly inappropriate community for the placement of a sexually violent predator.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 30th day of September 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Alto, Nichols, Roth, Sanchez, Van Allen, Filicetti

NAYS:

ABSENT: Acosta

ABSTAIN:

Resolution #21-15 Declaring Bonny Doon to be a Grossly Inappropriate Setting for the Release of a Sexually Violent Predator

Santa Cruz County Board of Education

September 30, 2021



Rose Filicetti, Board President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education



Dr. Faris Sabbah, Secretary
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools