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CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER NOT BEING PLACED IN WATSONVILLE OR SANTA CRUZ MOTELS

Santa Cruz County District Attorney Jeff Rosell announced today that Michael Thomas Cheek will **not** be placed at any of the proposed locations; 970 Main Street in Watsonville nor 111 Ocean Street in Santa Cruz.

The Department of State Hospitals contracts with Liberty Healthcare of California to supervise, treat, and monitor all Sexually Violent Predators engaging in outpatient treatment.

On April 6, 2026, Liberty publicly disclosed the proposed placement address.

On April 9, 2026, Liberty advised that the placement was no longer viable. According to a letter sent by Liberty to the Court: "The property owner advised Liberty via email on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 4:08 a.m., that the decision to withdraw these locations was based on *community opposition*."

District Attorney Jeff Rosell said, "Our office had significant public safety concerns with the proposed placement made by Liberty and we are pleased that these properties are no longer being considered."

There are currently no proposed placement locations pending Court approval. Cheek continues to receive inpatient sex offender treatment through the Department of State Hospitals in a locked psychiatric facility.