



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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PRESS RELEASE

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Gearhead Barber Owner Held to Answer for Rape

The owner of a local barbershop in Chico appeared in Butte County Superior Court today facing charges of forcible rape and rape of an intoxicated woman for an assault that occurred on October 25, 2019 in Chico.

Anthony Eidem, 51, owner of the Gearhead barbershop, had previously made statements to the local media regarding the rape charges against him, stating, "I really want my day in court . . . I want justice to be served. I want the truth to prevail."

Today, Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said, "Eidem had a day in court today, and the judge found the evidence presented was sufficient to hold him to answer to stand trial." Ramsey said some of the evidence presented at today's preliminary hearing included details of finding Eidem's DNA on the victim, strangulation bruising on the victim's neck, and a video located in Eidem's social media that he recorded on the night of the rape – showing the victim crawling on all fours due to her intoxicated state.

Judge Jesus Rodriguez ruled over the hearing, and found there was sufficient evidence to proceed to trial in the rape case against Eidem. Judge Rodriguez scheduled Eidem's case for arraignment and jury trial setting on May 12, 2021. Eidem's bail was previously set at \$130,000, however he remains out of custody, as he previously posted bail when first arrested in the case.

