



# BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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## PRESS RELEASE

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### Son Admits to Killing His Mother

A Chico man, charged with killing his mother with a dumbbell last year, appeared in Butte County Superior Court today where he entered a plea of no contest to first degree murder.

**Aaron Neil Patrick Connors**, 46, of Chico was in court today to set a date for a jury trial when he changed his not guilty plea to one of no contest.

District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the case began on March 5, 2020, when Connors went to visit his 68-year-old estranged mother, Susan Robb, at her home in north Chico during the early morning hours. Connors' mother invited him inside and the two visited with each other for a few hours. When Connors went to leave his mother's home, he went outside to his van, grabbed a 10-pound dumbbell, and went back inside his mother's home. The unsuspecting Robb was sitting on the couch with her back to her son when he approached her from behind and hit her on the head with the dumbbell. Connors proceeded to strike his mother multiple times on the head using the dumbbell causing her death. Ramsey noted this is the sixth matricide case in Butte County in the last 12 years.

Robb's roommate returned home from work that afternoon and found her body. The roommate called 911.

After the murder, Connors made his way to Gold Country Casino in Oroville where he was later arrested by Butte County Sheriff's deputies. Connors was interviewed at the Butte County Sheriff's Office where he provided a full confession. Connors told detectives he had been thinking about killing his mother for years, but began thinking about it more seriously in the days leading up to the crime. Ramsey said Connors has no known mental health issues.

The judge scheduled Connors' sentencing for August 4, 2021. Ramsey said Connors is facing a statutory term of 25 years to life in prison. However, due to recent changes in how the state department of corrections calculates credits given to prisoners, Connors could have a parole hearing in as soon as 16 years. Ramsey said he and 40 other elected district attorneys around the state are suing the department of corrections for giving too much time off to violent criminals.

Connors remains in custody at the Butte County Jail pending sentencing.

