

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
95814

December 15, 2016

The Honorable Lydia M. Villarreal
Monterey County Superior Court
Department 1
240 Church Street, 3rd Floor
Salinas, CA 93907

Dear Judge Villarreal,

I write on behalf of Assemblyman James Gallagher and myself, both representing Yuba County.

Assemblyman Gallagher is a fifth generation Sutter County farmer and former Sutter County Supervisor. I have represented 19 Northern California counties including Yuba County. In addition, I served many years as Chairman of the California Board of Prison Terms and was one of the authors of the Sexually Violent Predators Act (SVP) and subsequent strengthening legislation.

We write to entreat you to direct the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) to exert more vigilance to find placement for SVP Eldridge Chaney, Jr. in his county of last legal residence, not in Yuba County.

Chaney is still considered a Sexually Violent Predator. No assurances from DSH can bring comfort to the citizens of Yuba County or the nearby City of Marysville.

It smacks of simply dumping the problems of one county, held under the law, on another county less fortunate. There is no assurance whatsoever that treatment or security for Chaney will be one with superior or equal in Yuba County.

Your Honor, we respectfully request you insist that Chaney be placed in his county of last legal residence under the most stringent parole conditions allowed. If he violates conditions of his release, we request the court respect former law and regulations that ensured that any 1192.7/667.5 offenders be referred to parole revocation proceedings.

Thank you for your consideration.


JIM NIELSEN
Senator, Fourth District


JAMES GALLAGHER
Assemblyman, Third District