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NEWS RELEASE

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**District Attorney Gregory D. Totten's Statement in Response to Media Inquiries Regarding
People v. DeAngelo**

VENTURA, California – The prosecution of Joseph DeAngelo involves dozens of victims and crimes that were committed beginning more than four decades ago. It was not until the advent of Investigative Genetic Genealogy that we were able to successfully identify DeAngelo as the suspect in a series of rapes, burglaries and murders that spanned 11 counties over more than a decade.

Victims of a crime are entitled to finality in their criminal cases, as well as the expectation that the person convicted of committing the crime will be punished by the courts of the State of California. Victims and their loved ones have a right to be heard, and all six District Attorney's Offices involved in the prosecution of *People v. DeAngelo* are working closely with the victims in this case to ensure their statements are considered by the Court prior to sentencing.

We have a moral and ethical responsibility to consider any offer from the defense, given the massive scope of the case, the advanced age of many of the victims and witnesses, and our inherent obligations to the victims.

This is an active prosecution and we will have no further comment until we are in the Sacramento Superior Court on June 29, 2020.

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The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.

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