

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF VENTURA


NEWS RELEASE

GREGORY D. TOTTEN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Approved By: GDT 

District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that no charges will be filed against Jon Hixon, of Santa Paula, for a water spraying incident that occurred outside First Assembly Church in Ventura on Sunday, March 28, 2010. Mr. Hixon, a police officer employed by the Ventura Police Department and parishioner of the church, was off duty at the time of the incident.

The Ventura Police Department presented evidence to the Office of the District Attorney that Mr. Hixon sprayed water on Todd Bullis, of Ventura, with a garden hose and spray bottles. Mr. Bullis and others were displaying large, graphic photographs of aborted fetuses in front of the church. The photographs were prominently displayed so that parishioners, including children, driving into the parking lot of the church, would see the photographs. The District Attorney's Office concluded that while the spraying of water constituted a technical battery, no significant harm was done and prosecution of a battery charge would not be a responsible use of public resources.