



Two Custody Deputies Injured In Santa Barbara Court Holding Facility Assault

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SANTA BARBARA - Two Custody Deputies were injured yesterday when they were assaulted by an inmate at the Santa Barbara court holding facility. During the assault, an inmate kicked a female deputy in the face, and another deputy was injured during the altercation. Both deputies were taken to Cottage Hospital, where they were treated and released.

“It is unknown at this time how long the two deputies may be off duty because of their injuries”, said Todd Johnson, Vice President of the Deputy Sheriffs’ Association. “We’re very thankful they were able to make it home to their families tonight,” he said.

In the first quarter of 2016, the Sheriff’s Office has sent at least 35 cases to the District Attorney involving assaults on custody deputies in the Santa Barbara Main Jail. Cases sent to the District Attorney included both misdemeanor and felony charges for violence against staff.

The Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Office continues its uphill struggle to maintain minimum staffing in the jail and on patrol. The department recently brought back mandatory overtime for custody deputies, as several sworn personnel have left the department after the first of the year.

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Deputy Sheriffs' Association of Santa Barbara County
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