

***NEWS RELEASE ***
**SOLEDAD MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO
FELONY ELDER ADULT ABUSE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Ralph Garcia, age 55, of Soledad, pled guilty to felony elder adult abuse due to his neglect of his elderly father.

In August 2014, Garcia was the caregiver of his then 85-year-old bed-ridden father. Soledad officers conducted a neglect investigation after the victim was transported to the hospital as a result of numerous large, open ulcers to his hips and lower back area. The ulcerated sores were infected, and maggots were discovered inside the sores and on his back due to the infections. A Good Samaritan reported the case to Adult Protective Services. The reporting party observed the victim's condition and understood that he was not receiving proper care.

Garcia is scheduled to be sentenced on August 5, 2016 by Judge Pamela Butler. He will initially be sentenced up to 365 days in county jail to supervised felony probation for three years. If he violates probation he could be sentenced up to 4 years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

The case was investigated by Adult Protective Services, Soledad Police Officers Jason Gutierrez and Jorge Arreola, and District Attorney Investigator Jorge Gutierrez.