



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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L.A. CITY ATTORNEY DELGADILLO CONDEMNS SHERIFF'S DECISION TO RELEASE PARIS HILTON AFTER JUST THREE DAYS BEHIND BARS

LOS ANGELES – Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo today issued the following statement in response to the decision by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to release Paris Hilton from custody just three full days after she was admitted to county jail to serve an expected 23 days:

"Today I was extremely troubled to learn that the Sheriff's Department has decided to release Ms. Hilton from custody just three days after she was admitted to county jail.

"My office was not advised of this action. We learned of it this morning through news reports, just like everyone else. Had we been provided with the proper notification, we would have opposed the decision on legal grounds.

"News reports indicate that the Sheriff's Department released Ms. Hilton to house arrest due to a medical condition. This explanation is puzzling. Los Angeles county jail medical facilities are well-equipped to deal with medical situations involving inmates.

"I am also concerned that the judicial process may have been improperly circumvented in this case. Ms. Hilton was incarcerated as a condition of her probation. As a result, the judge retained jurisdiction over her case and only the judge has the power to modify these conditions of probation. If Ms. Hilton's medical condition truly warranted a change in her circumstances, what should have happened is the following: Ms. Hilton's legal counsel should have filed an emergency application with the court and provided my office with the opportunity to respond, and then the court could have held a hearing on the matter to consider whether there was sufficient justification to change the terms of his original order.

"I have directed my criminal branch to immediately explore all possible legal options to ensure that the law is being applied equally and justly in this case.

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“If law enforcement officials are to enjoy the respect of those we are charged with protecting, we cannot tolerate a two-tiered jail system where the rich and powerful receive special treatment. We must ensure that in our city, in our nation, and under our Constitution, justice remains blind.”

On Friday, May 4, 2007, Superior Court Judge Michael Sauer found Ms. Hilton to be in violation of the conditions of her probation. The court ordered Ms. Hilton to serve 45 days in jail, and further ordered: “No Electronic Monitoring” (quoting Court Order in *People v. Paris Hilton*, Case No. 6MP09160, dated 5-4-07).

On May 16, 2007, the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department publicly announced that Ms. Hilton would be required to serve at least 23 days in custody.

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