

SPECIAL DIRECTIVE 20-09.1

TO: ALL DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

FROM: GEORGE GASCÓN 
District Attorney

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL DIRECTIVE 20-09 YOUTH JUSTICE

DATE: JANUARY 26, 2021

Effective immediately, Special Directive 20-09 is amended as follows (changes in italics):

II. PETITIONS

1. Filings will consist of the lowest potential code section that corresponds to the alleged conduct and mandate one count per *criminal act*. *Charging alternative charges for the same criminal act shall be prohibited.*
2. Filing deputies are instructed to NOT file any potential strike offense if the offender is 16 or 17 years of age at the time of the offense *except in the following circumstances:*
 - a. Murder
 - b. *Attempted Murder*
 - c. *Forcible Sexual Assaults, involving Rape, Oral Copulation, Sodomy, Rape by Foreign Object, and a Lewd or Lascivious Act as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 288 of the Penal Code.*
 - d. *Other strike offenses only in extraordinary circumstances where the physical injury inflicted on the victim is extensive, where the manner in which a deadly or dangerous weapon, including firearms, is used and exhibited an extreme and immediate threat to human life, or where the conduct exhibited an intention to cause cruel or extreme pain and suffering. Permission to file strikes involving extraordinary circumstances requires Bureau Director approval upon written recommendation by the Head Deputy. The written request and approval must be placed in the file.*
3. Enhancements shall not be filed on youth petitions.

All other sections of Special Directive 20-09 remain in effect.

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