

Sacramento property manager sentenced in hate crime case

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A former Sacramento property manager was sentenced Friday to 100 days of community service for her conviction on misdemeanor hate crime charges against a black family.

Debbie Susan Arbuckle, 49, was ordered to perform 50 days of weekend work projects and 50 days of community service within 18 months.

She was convicted in May of making a racially motivated threat to harm a black family who lived in the mobile home park she managed.

Witnesses at Arbuckle's trial said the manager made racist comments and threatened to burn the family out of the El Dorado Mobile Home Park.

Deputy District Attorney ***Ed Dudensing*** urged Judge Richard H. Gilmour to sentence Arbuckle to a year in jail plus 400 hours of community service.

Arbuckle's attorney, Terry Lee Korte, said the jail time wasn't needed because the jury was wrong and his client was not guilty.

"Not only is it a hate crime, it is a hateful crime," Gilmour said of a single racist comment Arbuckle uttered. "Every case must stand alone. The punishment should fit the crime."

Gilmour also ordered Arbuckle to attend an ethnic sensitivity class.

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