

## *Plea bargain frees Casner in Wise case*

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SAN BERNARDINO — A plea-bargained disposition brought an unexpected end Monday to the prosecution of a man accused of helping conceal two young girls kidnapped when their mother was murdered.

Lee Casner, 37, of Grass Valley, had been charged with two counts of being an accessory to kidnapping and two counts of concealing minor children. Charges stemmed from the March 1977 stabbing death of Beverly Wise, 26, of San Bernardino, and the abduction of her daughters, Brandi Jondell Summers, now 8, and Tiffani Wise, now 5.

Wise's ex-husband, Roy Summers, 39, is charged with her murder.

Casner pleaded guilty to one count of concealing a minor and the other counts were dismissed. Superior Court Judge William P. Hyde placed him on three year's probation and assessed a jail sentence equivalent to the amount of time he has already served since his arrest Feb. 18, and awarded credit for time served. Casner has been in jail since February in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

Casner was also ordered to provide authorities with any information he may acquire about the present or past whereabouts of the two missing girls.

The case was reopened last September when San Bernardino city police detectives were told the children had been sighted alive in Northern California, Nevada and Idaho. Their investigation led them to several persons who they believed either harbored the children or lied to the detectives about seeing them.

The disposition of Casner's case reportedly stems from two factors:

- The likelihood that if Casner had any information about the girls he was never going to reveal it, and that the information has become stale anyway.
- The likelihood that all charges

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