

News

No jail time for slasher

Woman who knifed ex gets community service

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A Novato woman who slashed her ex-boyfriend with a knife in August at his Novato home will be able to avoid jail time by doing 100 hours of community service under a sentencing made on Dec. 17 in Marin County Superior Court.

Novato police arrested Lilly Ly on the night of Aug. 14 after the 49-year-old woman used a knife with a 6-inch blade to slash her 61-year-old ex at least three times — once in the arm, hip and the chest — at his Flint Court home near College of Marin's Indian Valley Campus.

Ly had gone to the man's house to help treat his injured knee, and she discovered he was with another woman, said Ly's attorney, Jon Rankin of Tiburon.

Ly then used a fishing knife to slash two tires on his Porsche, Rankin said.

He tried to stop her — "guys are funny about their Porsches," Rankin noted — and she slashed him.

The victim, a psychiatrist who works for the state correctional system, didn't want Ly, who owns a Grant Avenue beauty salon, to be incarcerated.

"He sent a letter (to that effect), and he spoke to the D.A.," Rankin said, opining that the man had "a certain amount of culpability."

"He was (seeing) two chicks — not that that's illegal," the attorney said. "But one out of 1,000 times you do that, you're going to get cut."

Rankin said that Ly had no prior criminal history and felt terrible about the incident.

"She regrets it," he said.

Rankin didn't know what type of community service Ly was going to do.

"They give you a long list of stuff to pick from," he said.