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Kemper Dismissals Requested

Accused mass murderer Edmund Emil Kemper made a brief appearance in Santa Cruz County Superior Court this morning, but did not enter a plea.

Public defender Jim Jackson moved to have two of the eight counts against Kemper dismissed. Superior Court Judge Charles Franich continued the matter until June 28.

Following the hearing, Jackson told reporters that he is asking for a dismissal of the charges against Kemper in connection with Anita Luchessa and Mary Ann Pescē. His reasoning in asking for the dismissals was that authorities have not recovered and identified the body of Miss Luchessa, and they have not fixed a cause of death for Miss Pesce.

Franich continued the matter so Jackson and Dist. Atty. Peter Chang could submit arguments on whether or not the two counts should be dismissed.

Although Kemper was brought into court, he was not asked to approach the bench while Jackson made his motion for the dismissals.