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MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Re: Trial Sentencing: People v. Daniel Ulloa and Ricardo Villasenor, LF01047AB

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction in a case where the defendants shot at and falsely imprisoned civilians at a corral in the City of Arvin. On April 22, 2021, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Leanne Wilder, a Kern County jury found defendant Daniel Ulloa guilty of attempted voluntary manslaughter, assault with a firearm, and gang participation. The jury also found true the enhancements of discharging a firearm, great bodily injury, and committing the crimes for the benefit of, in association with, and at the direction the Arvina criminal street gang. Ricardo Villasenor was found guilty of three counts of felony false imprisonment and gang participation. The jury also found true the gang enhancement and firearm enhancement for the false imprisonment charges as well as possessing a firearm during the commission of the crime of gang participation.

On July 26, 2018, the Arvin Police Department responded to a call for an assault with a firearm at a location on Fallbrook Avenue in the City of Arvin. When officers arrived, there was a victim suffering from a gunshot wound. Officers later learned that Arvina gang members were at the corrals when an argument broke out. Daniel Ulloa punched one of the victims in the face and then fled. While Daniel Ulloa was gone, his co-defendant, Ricardo Villasenor, was on the phone with Daniel Ulloa and falsely imprisoned three victims until Daniel Ulloa returned. Ricardo Villasenor was in possession of a firearm and blocked the only exit so the victims could not leave. Daniel Ulloa returned with a third Arvina gang member, Loreto Mosqueda.

Upon his return, Daniel Ulloa pointed and said, "That's him!", and directed Loreto Mosqueda to physically attack one of the victims. During the altercation Daniel Ulloa produced a firearm and fired two shots. One shot hit a victim in the left upper thigh. The shooting victim suffered from a gunshot wound and a shattered femur. Both defendants fled the scene. Ricardo Villasenor was contacted a few hours later; his vehicle was searched, and a loaded firearm and gang indicia were located.

Advised of the conviction and sentence, District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented that “Unprovoked gang violence is made worse by gang members’ continued use of firearms. We will continue to apply gang and firearm enhancements to gang related violent crime to ensure violent actions are punished appropriately.”

On May 20, 2021, the Honorable Charles Brehmer sentenced Ulloa to 19 years, 6 months in state prison. Judge Brehmer sentenced Villasenor to 12 years in state prison.