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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jury Finds Israel Quinonez Guilty of Two Counts of Attempted Premeditated Murder for Gang Related Shooting

People v. Israel Quinonez: Kern County Superior Court Case BF191243A

(Bakersfield) – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a jury verdict for a gang-related shooting case. On July 7, 2023, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Cyrus Shahbazian, a Kern County jury found Israel Quinonez guilty as charged, including two counts of Attempted Premeditated Murder. The case involved a gang-related shooting that occurred on July 9, 2022, near the intersection of Chester and 8th Street in Bakersfield. The jury also found true that Quinonez discharged a firearm resulting in great bodily injury to one of the victims.

In the evening hours of July 9, 2022, Officers with the Bakersfield Police Department responded to an alleyway just off Chester after reports that a victim had been struck by gunfire. Officers arrived and found the victim suffering from a through-and-through gunshot wound to his right thigh. The victim had lost a lot of blood, was in and out of consciousness, and officers acted swiftly in performing life-saving measures.

Officers canvassed the area and located video surveillance from several nearby businesses. The videos depict Quinonez riding his bike into a parking lot across the street from where the victims entered a convenient store. After both victims exit the store, Quinonez brandishes a firearm and fires two rounds as the victims flee. One of the victims is struck as he attempted to seek shelter behind a parked vehicle. The bullet entered the victim's rear right leg and exited his right thigh. Quinonez then got on his bike and approached the injured victim but fled as witnesses are heard calling 911.

Investigation from the Bakersfield Police Department identified Israel Quinonez as the shooter. On August 12, 2022, the Bakersfield Police Department's Violent Criminal Apprehension Team located and arrested Quinonez in the area of 4th Street and Chester after a brief foot pursuit.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "This is the second gang related conviction of the week. As we keep fighting to keep our communities safe from gang violence, we are heavily relying on the criminal justice system to aid us in prosecuting dangerous criminals that disregard human life."

Sentencing is scheduled for August 4, 2023, in front of the Honorable Judge Brehmer. Quinonez faces 73 years to life for the convictions.

Israel Quinonez:

