



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KERN

CIVIC CENTER JUSTICE BUILDING
1215 TRUXTUN AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301
(661) 868-2340, FAX: (661) 868-2700

JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CYNTHIA J. ZIMMER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

ANDREA S. KOHLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:
DDA Hunter E. Starr
O: (661) 868-2759
C: (661) 432-3359

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Grande Found Guilty in Double Murder of Girlfriend and Second Victim
People v. Gudelio Gutierrez Grande: Kern County Superior Court Case BF177639A

(Bakersfield) - Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant jury verdict in a double murder case. On October 26, 2023, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Hunter E. Starr, a Kern County jury convicted Gudelio Gutierrez Grande, age 46, of the first-degree murders of Marbeli Garcia and Emilio Chavez. The jury also found true the multiple-murder special circumstance and firearms allegation.

On July 18, 2019, Grande assaulted Marbeli Garcia, his then girlfriend, bruising her. She fled and went to stay with a friend. Garcia traveled to Los Angeles over the weekend with her friend and returned to Bakersfield on July 21, 2019. Later that day, Garcia went out for food, and was accompanied by Chavez, to whom Garcia's friend had introduced her to. The two picked up food and went to Rexland Acres Park in Bakersfield to eat at a park bench. Grande located Garcia and Chavez in the park. He shot Garcia twice, killing her, then shot Chavez, who fled. Grande then chased Chavez to East Fairview Road where Grande fired several more times, killing Chavez. Grande then fled.

Detectives obtained evidence that placed Grande at the scene of the murder at the time that the murder occurred, as well as located the murder weapon in Grande's work locker. DNA analysis from the Kern Regional crime lab further established Grande's connection to the firearm used in the murder. Kern County Sheriff's detectives unearthed the evidence despite Grande's attempts to hide it.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the conviction, stating, "This heinous murder is a reminder of how abusive behavior can escalate to devastating outcomes. If you are a victim of domestic violence, know help is near. I urge you to contact our Family Justice Centers for free services and resources to break the cycle of violence."

Sentencing is scheduled for December 5, 2023, in Department 9 before the honorable Judge Kenneth C. Twisselman, II. Grande will face a sentence of Life Without the Possibility of Parole plus a term of 50 years to life.

Gudelio Gutierrez Grande:

