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Carranza Found Guilty of Attempted First Degree Murder at Party
People v. Samuel Carranza: Kern County Superior Court Case BF198755A

(Bakersfield) – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a jury verdict in a significant case. On July 5, 2024, a Kern County jury found Samuel Carranza, age 20, guilty of first-degree attempted murder with an enhancement for discharge of a firearm causing great bodily injury, use of a firearm, and inflicting great bodily injury. Furthermore, Carranza was convicted of assault with a semiautomatic firearm, shooting at an occupied motor vehicle, and destruction of evidence. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Jordan E. Houle.

On February 10, 2024, at approximately 1:50 a.m., Kern County Sheriff's Department deputies were dispatched to Gingersnap Lane in Bakersfield regarding an individual who had just been shot. Upon arrival, deputies located the victim suffering from a gunshot wound to her head. While investigating that location, deputies were dispatched to Buckley Ave. in Bakersfield, the suspected location of the shooting.

Investigation at Buckley Ave. revealed a DVR which captured the shooting. At approximately 1:18 a.m., Carranza is seen confronting the victim and her group at a party while concealing a knife. Later at approximately 1:45 a.m., Carranza spotted the victim's vehicle that was parked on Buckley Ave. Carranza had a firearm delivered to him and fired multiple rounds into the rear of the vehicle. One of the rounds struck the victim in her head. At approximately 1:50 a.m., Carranza fled the scene with approximately two other people. The victim was ultimately transported to Kern Medical Center where she received initial treatment for a gunshot wound to the left side of her head. That same day she was transported to Loma Linda University Hospital for surgery and further treatment. The victim survived the shooting and is still recovering.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "Gun violence is a blight on our community. Individuals who misuse firearms to cause harm will face the fullest prosecution under the law."

Sentencing is set for August 1, 2024, in Department 10 of the Kern County Superior Court before the Honorable Judge Brad King. Carranza faces up to 32 years to life in prison.