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Velasquez Convicted for Threatening Ex-Girlfriend's Family After Breakup
People v. Jose Armando Velasquez-Duran: Kern County Superior Court Case SF021444A

(Shafter) – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant jury conviction. On August 26, 2024, a Kern County jury found defendant Jose Armando Velasquez-Duran guilty of Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Criminal Threats, and First-Degree Residential Burglary. It was also found true that Velasquez used a deadly weapon during the commission of the criminal threat. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Joe L. Alindajao.

On February 4, 2024, Velasquez showed up unannounced at his ex-girlfriend's Wasco residence around 4:00 AM, four days after she ended their relationship. The victim, her brother, was awakened by noises in the driveway and discovered Velasquez rummaging through the backseat of his vehicle. When told to leave, Velasquez demanded to speak with his ex-girlfriend and became aggressive, threatening to send his "boys" to "take care of" the victim.

The victim managed to close the front door as Velasquez poured charcoal on the doorstep and threatened to burn the family home down. Velasquez then banged on the doors, windows, and walls, shouting for his ex-girlfriend. Velasquez eventually gained entry through the rear entrance and confronted the victim inches from his face while holding pruning shears. While the victim was on the phone with 911, Velasquez said, "you better call an ambulance because he is going to need it." Deputies arrived to find Velasquez sitting on a couch with the shears within reach.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "Domestic violence not only affects romantic partners, but those around them as well, creating damaging effects for families and the wider community."

Sentencing is set on October 1, 2024, in Department B of the Kern County Superior Court – Shafter Branch before the Honorable Judge Wendy Avila. Velasquez faces up to 8 years and 4 months in prison.

Jose Armando Velasquez-Duran:

