



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

CYNTHIA J. ZIMMER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

ANDREA S. KOHLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

November 26, 2024
MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:
DDA Cole Sherman
(661) 868-2350

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Approved by CJZ
Press Release #24-161

First-Degree Murder Conviction and Rejection of Insanity Defense
People v. Jarrit Perrette: Kern County Superior Court Case BF189598A

(Bakersfield) - On November 21, 2024, a Kern County jury found Jarrit Perrette guilty of the First-Degree murder of victim, Derol Del Rio, that occurred on April 3, 2022, on Minner Avenue in Oildale. The jury also found Perrette guilty of personally using and possessing illegal assault weapons and with discharging a firearm causing death. On November 22, 2024, the jury returned a separate verdict rejecting Perrette's claim that he was legally insane at the time of the murder. This case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Cole Sherman.

Jarrit Perrette and Derol Del Rio were next-door neighbors for years until Perrette moved away from Minner Ave in 2021. While neighbors and even after having moved away, Perrette was known to harass and vandalize Del Rio's residence. On April 3, 2024, at about 4:00 a.m., Perrette drove to the victim's residence while was armed with five loaded firearms, more than 300 rounds of spare ammunition, two bottles of lighter fluid, a lighter, and a police scanner radio. Perette approached the victim's front door, knocked and waited for Del Rio, who stepped out onto his front porch. Without any provocation, Perrette fired three high velocity rounds from his AR-15 assault rifle at Del Rio, striking him in his chest, and killing him.

After the shots were fired, other neighbors came out and upon seeing their ex-neighbor Perrette standing next to Del Rio's body and holding a firearm. They called 9-1-1. Deputies from the Kern County Sheriff's Department responded to the scene and located Perrette, who was still armed with a rifle inside Del Rio's residence. After a brief standoff, Perrette exited the residence and was taken into custody.

During the trial, the defense presented evidence in support of their claim that Perrette suffered from mental health disorders causing him to hallucinate, which they argued made him unaware of what he was doing or that it was wrong. However, both psychologists who evaluated Perrette, testified that at the time of the crime, Perrette was aware of what he was doing and knew that it was wrong.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; “Perrette’s murder of his ex-neighbor was a senseless and tragic act against a man who should have been safe at his home. The District Attorney’s Office and its prosecutors are committed to seeking justice against men like Perrette who commit violent crimes and attempt to excuse their behavior through unwarranted claims of insanity.”

Sentencing is set for January 8, 2025, in Department 6 of the Kern County Superior Court before the Honorable John R. Brownlee. Perrette faces up to 58 years to life in prison.

Jarrit Perrett:

