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Jury Finds Tellez Guilty of Felony Assault Making Criminal Threats
People v. Antonio Tellez: Kern County Superior Court Case BF192320A

(Bakersfield) - Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced an assault conviction today. On November 21, 2024, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Louis Jameson, a Kern County jury found Antonio Tellez guilty of felony assault and making criminal threats. On November 26, 2024, the court found true that Tellez had two prior strike convictions. Tellez also plead no contest to charges of being under the influence of drugs and possessing drug paraphernalia. The jury was unable to reach a verdict on an enhancement for causing great bodily injury or for a second count of making additional criminal threats. The jury acquitted Tellez on the charge of battery causing great bodily injury but did find Tellez guilty him on the lesser charge of simple battery.

On November 14, 2022, the victim and his family had moved into an apartment complex in Southeast Bakersfield where Tellez also resided. The victim was confronted by Tellez as the victim left his own apartment to head to work, early in the morning. Without provocation, Tellez assaulted the victim, striking him multiple times in the face. The victim was able to escape from the assault and return to his apartment. Tellez banged on the victim's door, shouting at the victim and made threats that he would kill the victim and his family if he did not come back outside. Law enforcement was called and arrived to find Tellez still present, under the influence of methamphetamine and in possession of a methamphetamine smoking pipe.

Responding officers observed that the victim was bleeding profusely from his face and was covered in his own blood as a result of the unprovoked assault.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the conviction; "Drugs are a driving force behind crime and violence in our community, often influencing behaviors that harm innocent bystanders, as we've seen in this case. Telez has a history of violence, including multiple prior strike convictions and the unprovoked assault in this case merits three-strikes penalties be imposed."

Sentencing is set for January 14, 2025, in Department 4 of the Kern County Superior Court before the Honorable Charles Brehmer. As a third-strike offender, Tellez faces up to 35 years to life in prison as a result of the third-strike conviction.

Antonio Tellez:

