



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

JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

KENNETH M. RUSSELL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

May 9, 2025
MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:
DDA Matthew B. Holder
(661) 868-2420

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Approved by JAK
Press Release #25-51

Jury Finds Torres Guilty of Reckless Evasion of Police
People v. Johnathan Torres: Kern County Superior Court Case BF198809A

(Bakersfield) - Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a jury conviction today. On May 8, 2025, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Matthew Holder, a Kern County jury found Johnathan Torres guilty of Evading a Peace Officer with Recklessness, a Felony. Torres was acquitted of Driving Under the Influence of a Drug, a misdemeanor.

On March 17, 2024, Torres was driving his car in Delano when Delano Police attempted an enforcement stop. Torres accelerated away, leading Delano Police on a 32-mile high-speed pursuit down SR-99, at speeds exceeding 100 miles per hour. Delano Police worked with Officers of the California Highway Patrol, who took over the pursuit at SR-65, on the outskirts of Bakersfield.

Torres exited the highway at Olive Drive, where he ran a red light before reaching speeds of over 70 MPH. Torres passed multiple vehicles on the wrong side of the road, on the outside of a blind curve into oncoming traffic. Torres finally lost control of the vehicle, striking a fence near the intersection of Decatur St. and Sequoia St. He was arrested at the scene. Fortunately, no one was injured during the pursuit.

Assistant District Attorney Joseph Kinzel commented; "This was an incredibly reckless and dangerous act that put countless lives at risk. Torres' conduct exhibited a blatant disregard for public safety, and such behavior carries legal consequences."

Sentencing is set for June 6, 2025, before the Honorable Brian McNamera in Department 7 of the Kern County Superior Court. Torres faces up to 3 years in state prison.

Johnathan Torres:

