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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Amaya Found Guilty of the Attempted Carjacking that Occurred Across from
The Park at River Walk**

People v. David Amaya: Kern County Superior Court Case BF197474A

(Bakersfield) – On June 17, 2025, in a case presented by Deputy District Attorney Jordan Webster, a Kern County jury found defendant David Amaya guilty of four felony charges and one misdemeanor charge, including: Attempted Carjacking; Attempted Robbery; two counts of Assault with a Firearm; and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. The jury also found true special allegations that Amaya personally used a firearm during commission of the felony offenses.

On December 26, 2023, at approximately 6:00p.m., three victims, including a juvenile, were celebrating the holidays at River Oaks Nails Salon, located at the shopping center across from The Park at River Walk in Bakersfield. After leaving the salon, David Amaya followed the victims to their vehicle and forcibly pushed the juvenile into the backseat. Amaya was wearing a hoodie pulled up over his head and a ski mask to conceal his identity.

Amaya displayed a firearm to the juvenile and ordered all the victims to remain in the car. Two of the victims were able to flee and call for help. One adult victim remained with Amaya in her vehicle. Amaya raised the firearm to her head and ordered her to remain in the vehicle. Thankfully, the victim was ultimately able to escape without injury. A Good Samaritan observed the incident and began to honk his horn at Amaya, causing Amaya to begin fleeing on foot. The Good Samaritan was able to direct officers from the Bakersfield Police Department to Amaya. After a foot pursuit, Amaya was captured by officers at the park across the street and was taken into custody.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; “An innocent family, simply enjoying the holiday season, was subjected to an unprovoked and terrifying act of violence. Amaya's reckless use of a firearm demonstrates a blatant disregard for public safety. We will not tolerate any threat that endangers the well-being of our community and will be pursuing the maximum punishment.”

Sentencing is set for August 6, 2025, in Department 5 of the Kern County Superior Court before the Honorable Eric Bradshaw. Amaya faces up to 32 years in prison.

David Amaya:

