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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jury Finds Bucato Guilty of the Murder of Wife's Romantic Partner
People v. Nahaman Mauricio Bucato: Kern County Superior Court Case BF206786A

(Bakersfield) – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant murder conviction today. On September 4, 2026, in a case presented by Deputy District Attorney Brad Taconi, a Kern County jury found defendant Nahaman Mauricio Bucato guilty of First-Degree Murder with an enhancement for Use of a Firearm Resulting in Death.

On September 15, 2025, at approximately 3:30am, Bucato armed himself with a Glock 19 pistol and told his son not to worry about where he was going and to not chase after him. Bucato set out on foot for the mile walk to Benjamin Bernal's residence. Mr. Bernal had been dating Bucato's wife for several months. Bernal and Bucato's wife were asleep at Bernal's residence when Bucato forced open Bernal's front door and shot Bernal twice before executing him with a third shot to the back.

After murdering Bernal, Bucato called 911 and reported the killing. He remained on scene until deputies arrived and took him into custody.

Bucato had been aware of his wife's relationship with Bernal for several months. On the night of the murder, Bucato sent taunting text messages to both Bernal and his wife, making clear that he was aware that they were together.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer stated; "Far from the emotionally overwhelmed spouse who acts rashly upon learning of infidelity, Bucato engaged in a cold, calculated decision to kill, and was rightfully found guilty of first degree murder."

Sentencing is set for October 6, 2026, before the Honorable Judge Chad Louie in Department 8 of the Kern County Superior Court. Bucato faces a sentence of up to 50 years to life.

Nahaman Mauricio Bucato:

