



**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

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MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:
DDA Leanne Wilder
(661) 868-2766

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Jury Finds Victor Farias Jr. Guilty in the Murder of His Children's Mother
People v. Victor Farias Jr.: Kern County Superior Court Case 26BFA01155

(Bakersfield) – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction in a case where the defendant, Victor Farias Jr. was convicted of first-degree murder in the stabbing death of Yolanda Rojo and inflicting mental suffering child abuse upon his daughters who were present when the stabbing occurred.

On October 2, 2026, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Leanne Wilder, a Kern County jury found Farias guilty of the first degree willful, premeditated, and deliberate murder of Yolanda Rojo, the mother of his children. The jury also found true that Farias was armed with a knife at the time of the murder. In addition to first degree murder, Farias was also found guilty of child abuse and resisting arrest.

On March 25, 2026, just before 10:00p.m., Bakersfield Police officers were dispatched to a domestic dispute at the 7000 block of College Avenue in Bakersfield. Upon arrival, officers located Yolanda Rojo on the floor, with a slight pulse, covered in blood, and suffering from multiple stab wounds. The victim was rushed to Kern Medical where she was pronounced deceased.

The victim suffered 69 sharp force injuries on her head, neck, and back along with 23 stab wounds and numerous defensive wounds on her hands and arms. The coroner discovered that such force was used during the attack that three of the stab wounds caused fractures to her skull and neck.

Farias and the victim shared two children together, ages six and four, who witnessed the murder. At the time of the incident, the victim yelled for the six-year-old to come to help her as she was being stabbed by Farias. The brave six-year-old attempted to call for help with her mother's blood-soaked phone, however, Farias snatched the phone out of her hand. The victim, while still alive and being stabbed by Farias, then told the six-year-old to run to the neighbor to get help. A doorbell camera caught the victim's last screams as the six-year-old ran from the apartment to get help. Farias was close behind and chased the six-year-old, attempting to prevent the child from getting help. Farias ultimately fled the area and

drove eastbound on Highway 58 towards Tehachapi.

While on the run, Farias sideswiped a big rig one mile west of the Tuck Road exit and crashed his car off the road into an embankment. When law enforcement arrived at the scene, Farias had disappeared into the Tehachapi Mountains. After an extensive search, Farias was located in Tehachapi on March 26, 2026, where he resisted arrest and gave officers a false name.

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; “Victor Farias took Yolanda’s life believing he could silence her and conceal the truth. However, through the courage of her young children and the evidence recovered at the crime scene, Farias was ultimately found guilty of her premeditated murder, ensuring that Yolanda and her children obtained the justice they deserve.”

Sentencing is set for November 2, 2026 before the Honorable Gloria Cannon in Department 5 of the Kern County Superior Court. Faria faces up to 25 years to life in prison, plus an additional year.

This verdict is especially meaningful during this time as October marks Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Every act of domestic violence matters, and tragedies like this remind us of the importance of advocacy, education, and community support. As a reminder to the community, the Kern County Family Justice Center offers free services, including safety planning, housing assistance, and restraining order assistance. Walk-ins are available Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 4:00pm. For more information, visit kefjc.org.

Victor Farias:

