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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Re: Wendell Scott pleas to First Degree Murder and Life without Parole Sentence

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction today. On July 12, 2019, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Bryant Estep, Wendell Scott pleaded no contest to charges of first degree, premeditated murder with special circumstances for committing the murder to benefit the Eastside Crips criminal street gang.

The plea acknowledges Scott's role as the shooter during the July 2016 murder of Saddam Ali, which occurred on the 800 block of 8th Street, in Bakersfield. Wendell Scott had exited a vehicle driven by Albert Montellango, and then approached Saddam Ali and fired 5 shots at him. Ali was killed by the gunfire. One of the shots also hit a nearby, occupied baby stroller, narrowly missing the child inside.

Albert Montellango also entered a plea of no contest to voluntary manslaughter for his role in the incident, and is expected to receive an 11-year prison sentence.

Wendell Scott is expected to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Sentencing is scheduled for September 12, 2019 in Department 7 of the Superior Court.