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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Approved by CJZ
Press Release #24

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction in a vehicular homicide case today. In a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Kimberley Richardson, a Kern County jury convicted defendant Vincent Christopher Moroyoqui of two counts of second-degree murder and gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated. Defendant Moroyoqui was driving under the influence of alcohol and killed victims Raeleen Sorensen and Regan Sorensen.

On July 20, 2017, victim Raeleen Sorensen was traveling with her daughter, Regan Sorensen, westbound on SR 119. Mother and daughter were headed home to Taft from Bakersfield where they had spent the afternoon. Defendant Moroyoqui was traveling eastbound on SR 119, weaving in and out of traffic, and traveling at speeds up to 99 mph. Moroyoqui crossed into the Sorensens' lane and hit them head on, killing them.

Moroyoqui sustained minor injuries and was driving with a blood alcohol level of .264, over three times the legal limit.

Sentencing is set for June 5, 2019. The defendant faces a sentence of 15 years to life in state prison.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer stated: "The death of these victims, mother and daughter, was completely devastating to their family members and to their friends in our westside community of Taft. The District Attorney's Office is committed to bring to justice intoxicated drivers who prey upon the innocent on our roadways."