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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Approved by _____

Kern County District Attorney Lisa Green announced that Carlos Cervantes was convicted today of two counts of first degree murder. The jury found special circumstances alleging multiple murder convictions in the same case to be true, and likewise found true allegations of intentionally discharging a firearm causing death. Mr. Cervantes shot his neighbor Jeffrey Villegas, as well as Jose Ceja, on September 4, 2016. After the verdict was read, Mr. Cervantes, who was in custody, attempted to leave the courtroom and was subdued by multiple Kern County Sheriff's deputies after refusing to obey their commands to return to his seat. Mr. Cervantes faces a sentence of life without the possibility of parole when he is sentenced by Superior Court Judge John Oglesby on August 9, 2018. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Nicholas Lackie.