



**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

ANDREA S. KOHLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:
DDA Leanne Wilder
(661) 868-2766

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Re: Trial Conviction: People v. Daniel Ulloa and Ricardo Villasenor, LF01047AB

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction in a case where the defendants shot at and falsely imprisoned civilians at a corral in the City of Arvin. On April 22, 2021, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Leanne Wilder, a Kern County jury found defendant Daniel Ulloa guilty of attempted voluntary manslaughter, assault with a firearm, and gang participation. The jury also found true the enhancements of discharging a firearm, great bodily injury, and committing the crimes for the benefit of, in association with, and at the direction the Arvina criminal street gang. Ulloa's conviction for attempted voluntary manslaughter was a lesser included offense to attempted murder, for which Ulloa was found not guilty.

Ricardo Villasenor was found guilty of three counts of felony false imprisonment and gang participation. The jury also found true the gang enhancement and firearm enhancement for the false imprisonment charges as well as possessing a firearm during the commission of the crime of gang participation.

On July 26, 2018, the Arvin Police Department responded to a call for an assault with a firearm at a location on Fallbrook Avenue in the City of Arvin. When officers arrived, there was a victim suffering from a gunshot wound. Officers later learned that Arvina gang members were at the corrals when an argument broke out. Daniel Ulloa punched one of the victims in the face and then fled. While Daniel Ulloa was gone, his co-defendant, Ricardo Villasenor, was on the phone with Daniel Ulloa and falsely imprisoned three victims until Daniel Ulloa returned. Ricardo Villasenor was in possession of a firearm and blocked the only exit so the victims could not leave. Daniel Ulloa returned with a third Arvina gang member, Loreto Mosqueda.

Upon his return, Daniel Ulloa pointed and said, “That’s him!” and directed Loereto Mosqueda to physically attack one of the victims. During the altercation Daniel Ulloa produced a firearm and fired two shots. One shot hit a victim in the left upper thigh. The shooting victim suffered from a gunshot wound and a shattered femur. Both defendants fled the scene. Ricardo Villasenor was contacted a few hours later; his vehicle was searched, and a loaded firearm and gang indicia were located.

On May 20, 2021, the matter will go before the Honorable Charles Brehmer for sentencing. Daniel Ulloa is facing a maximum sentence of approximately 19 years in prison. Ricardo Villasenor is facing a maximum sentence of approximately 20 years and 8 months in prison.