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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Approved by CJZ
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Re: First-Degree Murder Conviction, People v. Rodriguez, BF167915A

Today District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer made an announcement in a significant case. A Kern County Jury found defendant, Gerardo Rodriguez, guilty of first-degree murder along with a special circumstance that the murder was committed during the perpetration of an attempted rape. He faces a possible sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole.

On April 10, 2017, the Bakersfield Fire Department responded to the 3000 block of Dore Drive for a report of a female, Stacy D., 15 years old, who potentially overdosed. Upon arrival, numerous subjects were contacted as well as the defendant who was acting suspiciously. Fire personal found Stacy D. deceased and that she had suffered physical trauma to her head and neck. The Bakersfield Police were called, and a homicide investigation was conducted. The investigation revealed Gerardo Rodriguez had been alone with Stacy D. in the garage of his home where he physically and sexually assaulted the victim and killed her by manual strangulation.

District Attorney Zimmer stated: "The sexual assault and subsequent murder of this young woman is every parent's worst nightmare. Sexual abuse against children is a horrific crime and life in prison is an appropriate sentence in this case."

Gerardo Rodriguez is scheduled to be sentenced on November 15, 2021. Rodriguez faces a sentence of life in prison without parole.