



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

JAMES D. SIMSON
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

ANDREA S. KOHLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

April 8, 2022

MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:

DDA Hunter E. Starr
O: (661) 868-2759 C: (661) 432-3359

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Approved by JAK
Press Release #22-23

Re: Jury Returns 2nd Degree Murder Verdict in Homicide Case: Christian Campos: Kern County Superior Court Case #176523A

Bakersfield: Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a jury verdict in a murder case today. On April 8, 2022, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Hunter E. Starr, a Kern County jury found Christian Campos guilty of the second-degree murder relating to the death of Daniel Macias. The jury also returned true findings on two firearms enhancements. In a separate portion of the trial, jurors were asked to consider whether the murder involved great violence or other acts disclosing a high degree of cruelty, viciousness, or callousness; whether the defendant used a weapon at the time of the crime; whether the crime was carried out in a manner indicating planning, sophistication, or professionalism; and whether the defendant has engaged in violent conduct which indicates a serious danger to society. For each allegation, the jury returned findings of “true.”

On April 13, 2019, Christian Campos drove his Dodge Ram pickup truck through the shopping center at the southeast corner of Panama and South H St. in Bakersfield. He drove to where Daniel Macias was parked. Campos then got out of his truck and fired 16 shots through Macias’ car passenger window from a .223 caliber AR-15 rifle. 12 of the 16 shots struck Mr. Macias, resulting in his death. Campos then fled the scene. Investigators relied on a variety of social media and cellular phone data to ultimately identify Campos.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the conviction: “Some homicide crimes show a particular level of viciousness that the law recognizes as an aggravating factor. Firing a high-powered rifle at close range sixteen times upon a victim, causing grievous injury, is well within the law’s definition of a high degree of cruelty, viciousness, or callousness. For such an aggravated crime, the maximum penalty will be sought.”

Sentencing is scheduled for May 9, 2022 in Department 5 of the Superior Court before the Honorable John

Lua, where Campos will face a sentence of up to 40 years to life in prison.