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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Jury Verdicts Reached in McFarland Attempted Murder Case
People v. Chesre Carbajal: Kern County Superior Court #DF016710A

(Bakersfield) -- Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a jury verdict in a significant attempted murder case today. On February 27, 2023, in a case prosecuted by Deputy DA Bradley King, a Kern County jury found defendant Chesre Carbajal guilty of attempted murder with premeditation and deliberation, shooting at an inhabited vehicle, assault with a firearm, and being felon in unlawful possession of a firearm. The jury further returned true findings as to several special allegations including personal use of a firearm, personal infliction of great bodily injury and discharge of a firearm resulting in great bodily injury. The trial judge further found it true that Carbajal has a prior serious or violent felony "strike" conviction for criminal threats in 2015.

On February 5, 2022, at approximately 12:00 p.m., the victim arrived at a family member's home, located in the outskirts of McFarland. Carbajal drove up to the victim, parked next to him, and asked the victim if he had been talking poorly about Carbajal's wife the day prior. The victim told Carbajal that he was not the subject who spoke to or about Carbajal's wife. Carbajal became visibly upset and began questioning the victim if he was from Wasco. The victim told Carbajal that he was not from Wasco. Concerned for his safety amidst the confrontation, the victim drove away from the area. As the victim drove eastbound on Elmo Highway and began to negotiate a U-turn to drive westbound towards McFarland, the victim saw Carbajal remove a black rifle from a car. The victim started driving faster away from Carbajal, but victim heard approximately ten gunshots being fired towards him. One of the shots hit the victim in the head, and the victim was able to call 9-1-1 to seek medical aid. After making it back to his family member's home, the victim exited the vehicle and collapsed. Paramedics arrived shortly after and transported the victim to a secure area where he was airlifted to a local hospital for treatment.

Sheriff's Deputies from the Kern County Sheriff's Office investigated the incident, which ultimately resulted in the identification of Carbajal as the shooter. A search of Carbajal's vehicle, which was found at the scene of the shooting, yielded a black .22 caliber rifle and a box containing eighteen live rounds of .22 caliber ammunition. The rifle held a magazine loaded with thirteen live rounds of .22 caliber ammunition.

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the verdict, stating that "Violent criminals that use deadly weapons to resolve petty differences endanger not only the victims they target, but the community at large. Harsh penalties, including life prison sentences, await any criminal that uses firearms during a violent crime."

Sentencing is scheduled before the Honorable Judge Michael Bush on April 12, 2023, in Department 18 of the Kern County Superior Court, where Carbajal faces a sentence of more than 40 years to life in prison.

Chesre Carbajal:

