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NEWS RELEASE

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Oxnard Man Pleads Guilty to Stabbing Death

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Cody Washington (DOB 02/13/77), of Oxnard, pled guilty to one count of voluntary manslaughter for the unlawful killing of Corey Smith, also of Oxnard. Washington also admitted he personally used a knife during the commission of the crime.

On October 24, 2020, Mr. Smith and Washington were outside of the JK Smoke Shop in the city of Oxnard when Mr. Smith became agitated with Washington for unknown reasons. Mr. Smith suddenly punched Washington once and Washington responded by stabbing Mr. Smith one time in the chest. Oxnard Police Department officers were immediately dispatched to the scene. Upon arrival, officers found Mr. Smith unconscious and bleeding. Mr. Smith was immediately taken to the Ventura County Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

Sentencing is set for April 27, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. in courtroom 23 of the Ventura County Superior Court. It is expected Washington will be sentenced to four years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

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The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is the public prosecutor for the county's 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.

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