

ERIK NASARENKO District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Arrest Made in Head-On Collision Resulting in Death of 18-Year-Old

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Jesus Manuel Calles (DOB 06/27/92), of Santa Barbara, was arrested and taken into custody for the December 18, 2021, collision that resulted in the death of 18-year-old Juan Morales and injuries to Rodolfo Carbajal and Daniel Bernal Morales. A bail review is scheduled on January 24, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 13 of the Ventura County Superior Court. Calles is currently in custody with bail set at \$100,000.

On December 18, 2021, Calles was driving the wrong way on U.S. Highway 101 when he struck headon the vehicle driven by Juan Morales, resulting in the death of Mr. Morales. Rodolfo Carbajal, who was driving in his vehicle behind Juan Morales, also crashed as he was unable to avoid the collision. Both Rodolfo Carbajal, and his passenger, Daniel Morales, suffered injuries from the collision.

A felony complaint was filed on December 27, 2021, charging Calles with felony gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, felony driving under the influence of alcohol causing injury, and misdemeanor driving without a valid driver's license.

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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 290 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.