



ERIK NASARENKO
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Arsonist Sentenced to Prison for Ojai Fire

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Jorge Flores (DOB 02/07/93), of Ojai, was sentenced for committing arson of forest land.

On June 18, 2021, at approximately 6:20 p.m., numerous individuals reported a brush fire along State Route 33 near Ojai. Ventura County Sheriff's Office deputies and Ventura County Fire Department personnel jointly responded to the fire scene. Shortly after the fire started, a witness captured a photograph of Flores near the brush fire. Law enforcement from the Ventura County Sheriff's Office eventually located and apprehended Flores. The fire consumed approximately five acres.

A Ventura County jury heard several days of testimony and found Flores guilty of arson of forest land, a felony violation of Penal Code section 451(c). Judge Ryan J. Wright sentenced Flores to four years in state prison. Flores also must register for life as an arson offender and pay approximately \$36,000 in restitution to the Ventura County Fire Department and California Fire.

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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.