



ERIK NASARENKO
District Attorney

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Contact: Kelsey Einhorn
Title: Deputy District Attorney
Telephone: (805) 654-3825
Email: Kelsey.Einhorn@Ventura.org

Approved: RMW
Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2022
Release No.: 22-102

Santa Barbara Man Pleads Guilty in Fatal Head-On Collision

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Jesus Manuel Calles (DOB 06/27/92), of Santa Barbara, pled guilty to felony gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, felony driving under the influence of alcohol causing injury, and misdemeanor driving without a valid driver’s license in a head-on collision that killed one driver and injured two others in December 2021.

On December 18, 2021, California Highway Patrol officers responded to a head-on crash on U.S. Highway 101 in Ventura. Officers found that a vehicle driven by Calles crashed into a vehicle driven by 18-year-old Juan Morales as Calles was traveling southbound in the northbound lanes. Unable to avoid the collision, another vehicle driven by Rodolfo Carbajal also crashed into Morales’s vehicle. Morales was killed in the collision, while his passenger and Carbajal both suffered injuries from the collision.

Calles is scheduled to be sentenced on September 27, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in courtroom 23 of the Ventura County Superior Court. It is expected that Calles will receive a sentence of 10 years in prison.

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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.