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NEWS RELEASE



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Two Men Sentenced for Roles in 2017 Murder and Robbery Spree

VENTURA, Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Joel Randy Montijo (DOB 11/24/95), of Cerritos, and Joseph Martinez (DOB 06/21/98), of Port Hueneme, were sentenced for their roles in a 2017 murder and robbery spree in Oxnard. Montijo, who previously pled guilty on July 28, 2022, to one count of second-degree murder and four counts of second-degree robbery, was sentenced to 35 years to life in state prison. Martinez, who pled guilty on November 2, 2020, to two counts of voluntary manslaughter, four counts of second-degree robbery, and one count of attempted second-degree robbery, was sentenced to 20 years 8 months prison.

On May 16, 2017, Montijo, Martinez, and David Diaz-Flores (DOB 10/12/97), who was previously convicted and sentenced to life without parole, were responsible for the shooting deaths of Aaron Austin and Eduardo Viveros. Mr. Austin was shot four times and found in front of an apartment complex on North G Street in Oxnard. He was pronounced dead at the Ventura County Medical Center. Mr. Viveros suffered from three gunshot wounds and died on Perkins Road in Oxnard. The shootings were separated by less than 30 minutes. The men also robbed three additional victims at gunpoint. Martinez acted as the driver for Montijo and Flores during this crime spree.

Senior Deputy District Attorney John Barrick, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Major Crimes Homicide Unit, handled the prosecution for these cases.

"It has been a long, arduous road for the victims' families to see justice for their loved ones," Barrick said. "With today's sentencing, we can finally end their trauma and hopefully begin their healing."



Case: 2018006179

Defendant Information:

Joel Randy Montijo (DOB 11/24/95)
Cerritos

Pled Guilty to:

- PC 187(a) – Second-degree murder
- (4 counts) PC 211 - Second-degree robbery

Special Allegations Found True:

- PC 12022.53(c) – Personal and intentional discharge of a firearm
- PC 12022.53(b) – Personal use of a firearm



Case: 2018006175

Defendant Information:

Joseph Martinez (DOB 06/21/98)
Port Hueneme

Pled Guilty to:

- (2 counts) PC 192 (a) – Voluntary manslaughter
- (4 counts) PC 211 – Second-degree robbery
- PC 664/211 – Attempted second-degree robbery

Special Allegations Found True:

- PC 12022(a)(1) – Principal while personally armed