



ERIK NASARENKO
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged in Oxnard Underground Party Murder

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Willis Nichols (DOB 03/15/03), of Oxnard, has been charged with the murder of Adrian Sandoval, also of Oxnard. The complaint charges one count of murder with a special allegation that Nichols personally used a firearm in the commission of the crime. Nichols is also charged with two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, with special allegations of personally inflicting great bodily injury, for the shootings of two men in the same incident.

On the evening of March 12, 2022, Nichols fired into a group of people attending a party at an abandoned Goodwill store on Saviers Road in Oxnard. Mr. Sandoval suffered a fatal gunshot wound and died at the scene. The other two victims each sustained gunshot wounds but survived.

Nichols appeared in court for arraignment on July 7, 2022, and did not enter a plea. His arraignment was continued to August 4, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 13 of the Ventura County Superior Court. The case is also scheduled for a bail review hearing on July 14, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 13. Nichols is currently in custody with bail set at \$1.35 million.

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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.