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Moorpark Man Pleads Guilty to Murder of Brother-in-Law

VENTURA, Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Elsworth Dennis Cadle (DOB 09/08/52), of Moorpark, pled guilty to the second-degree murder of his brother-in-law, Mark Milton. He also admitted to the special allegation that he personally and intentionally discharged a firearm resulting in death. Cadle is facing 25 years to life in prison when sentenced.

In 2019, Cadle's estranged wife and daughter were living with his sister and brother-in-law in Moorpark. By early January, the wife and daughter were moving into their own apartment. They had rented a U-Haul truck to pick up belongings from Cadle's apartment and from a storage unit Mr. Milton and his wife rented in Moorpark.

On January 3, 2020, Cadle drove past the storage unit and spotted Mr. Milton. Cadle then rented a car, retrieved his gun, and went back to the storage unit where he found Mr. Milton seated in the driver's seat of the U-Haul. Cadle shot Mr. Milton one time in the left side of the head and fled. He was arrested several hours later by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office. The gun was located in the center console of the rental car.

Supervising Senior Deputy District Attorney Melissa Suttner prosecuted the case.

"The Ventura County Sheriff's Office did a wonderful job investigating this case and their efforts should not go unnoticed," Ms. Suttner said. "This is a tragic case and now that the defendant took responsibility for taking his brother-in-law's life, the family can begin to heal."

Cadle is scheduled to be sentenced on June 20, 2024, at 8:45 a.m. in courtroom 46 of the Ventura County Superior Court.

Case: 2020000396
Defendant Information:

Elsworth Dennis Cadle (DOB 09/08/52) Moorpark

Convicted of:

PC 187(a) - Murder

Special Allegations:

• PC 12022.53(d) – Personal and intentional discharge of a firearm resulting in death

