



ERIK NASARENKO
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE



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Contact: Joey Buttitta
Title: Communications Manager/PIO
Phone: (805) 767-3400
Email: Joey.Buttitta@ventura.org

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**Lancaster Man Sentenced for Robbery, Gun Charges
& Evading an Officer Causing Death**

VENTURA, Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Makare Darnell Toliver (DOB 04/07/03), of Lancaster, was sentenced to 12 years state prison. Toliver previously pled guilty on November 21, 2024, to assault with a semiautomatic firearm, second degree robbery, grand theft of a firearm, evading an officer causing death, and fleeing the scene of an accident involving death. He also admitted to several special allegations and aggravating factors, including the personal use of a firearm and that the crime involved great violence.

On July 27, 2024, Toliver approached a man sitting in a Camarillo parking lot. He opened the door and pointed a loaded firearm at the man in the driver's seat. Toliver ordered him to empty his pockets, taking cash, a cell phone, and a bag which contained a handgun. Toliver then fled the scene in a red Mazda. The victim called police to report the robbery and provided a description of the suspect and his vehicle.

A short time later, Ventura County Sheriff's deputies located the red Mazda vehicle in Camarillo and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. Toliver and a passenger briefly pulled over before quickly fleeing at a high rate of speed. Driving at speeds in excess of 100 mph on Central Avenue, Toliver swerved into the bicycle lane to maneuver around a slower moving vehicle when he struck cyclist Robert Pierret. Failing to stop, Toliver accelerated again, subsequently crashing into a vehicle on Central Avenue. He continued driving and lost control crossing into oncoming traffic and colliding with a second vehicle nearly head-on. At that crash site, Toliver exited his vehicle and complied with law enforcement commands. Toliver and his passenger were taken into custody.

Cyclist Robert Pierret was taken to Ventura County Medical Center where he succumbed to his injuries.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Stephanie Leija, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Major Crimes Unit, prosecuted the case.

"The Pierret family endured an unfathomable loss due to the defendant's selfish and reckless actions," Ms. Leija said. "While no sentence can ever undue that loss, I hope the judge's sentence will provide the Pierret family with the closure they deserve."

Case: 2024020412

Defendant Information:

Makare Darnell Toliver (DOB 04/07/03)
Lancaster

Charges pled guilty to:

- PC 245(b) – Assault with a semiautomatic firearm
- PC 211 – Second degree robbery
- PC 487(d)(2) – Grand theft of firearm
- VC 2800.3 – Evading an officer causing death
- VC 20001(b)(2) – Fleeing the scene of an accident involving death

Special Allegations:

- PC 12022.5(a)(1) – Use of a firearm
- CRC 4.421(a)(1) – The crime involved great violence
- CRC 4.421(a)(2) – The defendant was armed with and used a weapon
- CRC 4.421(b)(1) – Defendant has engaged in violent conduct
- PC 12022.53(b) – Personal use of a firearm

