



# ERIK NASARENKO

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

## NEWS RELEASE



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### Eis Pleads Guilty to First-Degree Murder, Multiple Attempted Murders & Assaults

VENTURA, Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Austin Allen Eis (DOB 05/29/98), of Camarillo, has pleaded guilty to 10 felony charges and special allegations related to a series of violent attacks on April 18, 2023. Eis pled guilty in Ventura County Superior Court to the first-degree murder of 15-year-old Wesley Welling, multiple counts of premeditated attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, and false imprisonment by violence. Each count Eis pled guilty to is a strike offense. He also admitted to special allegations, including personal use of a car and knife as a deadly weapon, and inflicting great bodily injury.



“The defendant committed acts of terror and extreme violence that took the life of a teenage boy and shattered the lives of many others,” said District Attorney Nasarenko. “While no number of guilty pleas will ever close the anguish of the victims and their families, they will ensure the defendant’s removal from society and impose accountability for his horrendous crimes.”

On April 18, 2023, Eis began his crime spree entering a Wal-Mart in Simi Valley where he assaulted a greeter by spitting, pepper spraying, and stabbing him multiple times. He then dragged another employee across the store. Following this attack, Eis broke into his parents' home in Camarillo while armed with a replica firearm and a knife, demanding access to additional weapons before fleeing.

Shortly after leaving his parents, he intentionally drove into a group of Westlake High School students standing on a sidewalk, killing Wesley Welling and injuring multiple others. Witnesses reported that Eis accelerated toward the students before striking them with his vehicle, which

overturned after impact with a bus stop. Several students suffered severe injuries requiring surgeries and extensive medical treatment.

Eis admitted to targeting the students out of personal frustrations and his desire to commit mass violence. Investigators discovered a long history of violent threats, including admiration for mass murderers and adherence to extremist ideologies. Text messages and communications showed that he had expressed intentions to carry out acts of violence for years.

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

"The District Attorney's offer was designed to reflect the full scope and severity of the defendant's depraved actions for a sentence of 85 years to life," Ms. Lee said. "The sentence will not only reflect his premeditated and calculated actions after years of homicidal ideations, but also the horrific nature of the crime spree he unleashed on innocent members of our community. This disposition allows the dozens of victims to close this chapter of their lives without reliving the trauma through courtroom testimony."

Eis is scheduled to be sentenced on April 14, 2025. Time and courtroom for sentencing are yet to be determined. He remains in custody without bail and faces 85 years to life in state prison.

**Case: 2023009480**

**Defendant Information:**

Austin Allen Eis (DOB 05/29/98)

Camarillo

**Charges pled guilty to:**

- PC 187(a) – Murder
- (6 counts) PC 664/187(a) – Attempted murder
- (2 counts) PC 245(a)(1) – Assault with a deadly weapon (car & knife)
- PC 236 – False imprisonment by violence

**Special Allegations:**

- PC 189 – First degree murder
- PC 664(a) – Premeditated attempted murder
- PC 12022(b)(1) – Use of deadly weapon
- PC 12022.7(a) – Personal infliction of great bodily injury in commission of felony