



ERIK NASARENKO
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE



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**Alnaji Pleads Guilty to All Counts and Allegations
in Manslaughter Death of Paul Kessler**

VENTURA, Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced that Loay Abdel Fattah Alnaji (DOB 05/06/73), of Moorpark, pled guilty today to all counts and allegations related to the death of Paul Kessler. Alnaji pled guilty to felony involuntary manslaughter and felony battery causing serious bodily injury. He admitted the special allegation that he personally inflicted great bodily injury. Alnaji also admitted aggravating factors that he used a weapon and that the victim was particularly vulnerable.

Alnaji engaged in a physical confrontation with the victim, Paul Kessler, on November 5, 2023, while both were protesting on the corner of Thousand Oaks Boulevard and Westlake Boulevard in Thousand Oaks. Alnaji struck Mr. Kessler in the head with a megaphone, causing Mr. Kessler to fall to the ground and hit his head on the pavement. Mr. Kessler subsequently died from injuries sustained during the incident.

“Alnaji should be sentenced to prison for his violent behavior, and our office strongly objects to any lesser sentence,” said District Attorney Erik Nasarenko. “While no amount of punishment will ever fully account for the Kessler family loss, a prison commitment underscores the severity of this crime and will deter others from committing similar acts of violence.”

The Court indicated that it is likely to place Alnaji on formal probation with up to 365 days in jail in a case where Alnaji faces a maximum sentence of up to four years in prison.

The sentencing hearing is scheduled for June 25, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in courtroom 48 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He remains out of custody on \$50,000 bail.

Case: 2023030461

Defendant Information:

Loay Abdel Fattah Alnaji (DOB 05/06/73)

Moorpark

Charges pled guilty to:

- PC192(b) – Involuntary manslaughter
- PC 243(d) – Battery causing serious bodily injury

Special Allegations admitted:

- PC 1192.7(c)(8) – Personally inflicted great bodily injury
- CRC 4.421(a)(2) – Defendant armed with and used a weapon
- CRC 4.421(a)(3) – Victim was particularly vulnerable