ERIK NASARENKO
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE

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Simi Valley Man Charged with Felony DUI After Collision Injures Oxnard Police Motorcycle Officer

VENTURA, Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Manuel Galindo Elwell (DOB 04/28/89), of Simi Valley has been charged with DUI related charges after striking an Oxnard Police Department motorcycle officer. Elwell is charged with felony DUI causing injury and driving while his license was suspended or revoked. He also faces several special allegations and aggravating factors, including causing great bodily injury in commission of a felony and a strike prior. He was arraigned in Ventura County Superior Court on November 17, 2026, and pled not guilty to all charges.

On November 14, 2026, Elwell, while on a suspended license, allegedly drove a Mercedes sedan eastbound on Cooper Road in Oxnard while under the influence of alcohol. At the intersection of McKinley Avenue, Elwell attempted to turn left and failed to yield to an Oxnard police motorcycle officer traveling westbound on Cooper Road. The Mercedes struck the motorcycle, throwing the officer to the ground and causing significant injuries.

“Motorcycle officers put themselves at a heightened risk to improve traffic safety for our communities,” said District Attorney Erik Nasarenko. “The serious injury the defendant is alleged to have caused to this Oxnard police officer must be met with significant and vigorous prosecution.”

Deputy District Attorney Clayton Reagan, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney’s Office DUI Unit, is prosecuting the case.

Elwell remains in custody on this new case with bail set at $130,000. A bail review hearing is scheduled for November 20, 2026, in courtroom 14 at 8:30 a.m.

Case #: 2026034377
Defendant Information:
Manuel Galindo Elwell (DOB 04/28/89)
Simi Valley

Charges:

- VC 23153(a) – DUI of alcoholic beverage causing injury
- VC 23153(b) – Driving with a .08% blood alcohol causing injury
- VC 14601.5(a) – Driving while license suspended or revoked

Special allegations:

- PC 12022.7(a) – Great bodily injury in commission of felony
- CRC 4.421(b)(2) – The defendants prior convictions are numerous or of increasing seriousness
- CRC 4.421(b)(3) - The defendant has served a prior term in prison and county jail
- PC 667S2 – Prior strike 2
- PC 1170(h)(3) – Prior serious or violent felony