

ERIK NASARENKO

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**NEWS RELEASE** 



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Approved: RHD Date: Febr Release No.: 23-0

RHD February 2, 2023 23-012

## Piru Man Enters Guilty Plea in Poaching Crimes Case Case: 2021030478

VENTURA, Calif. - District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced that a guilty plea was entered by Juventino Reyes Guerrero (DOB 09/11/78), of Piru, for his role in working with an illegal wildlife poaching group, known as the "E-Bike Crew."

Reyes Guerrero, the operator of Fish & Wildlife licensing equipment located at Lizette's Market in Piru, pled guilty on Monday, January 30, 2023, to six felonies, including two counts of conspiracy to commit a crime and four counts of filing a false or forged document.

Reyes Guerrero is scheduled to be sentenced on March 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in courtroom 12 of the Ventura County Superior Court, where he is expected to receive 180 days in the Ventura County Jail and a lifetime ban operating state computers, such as the one in Lizette's Market for printing hunting tags.

"The defendant abused the licensing systems and helped to orchestrate illegal killings of local wildlife," said District Attorney Erik Nasarenko. "His actions endangered our environment, and as a consequence of his guilty plea, he will have a lifetime ban from issuing hunting tags and licenses."

Martin Bravo Sr. (DOB 04/14/63), of Oxnard, Martin M. Bravo (DOB 05/13/92), of Oxnard, Walfre Lopez y Lopez (DOB 06/14/84), of Oxnard, Gilberto Lopez Hernandez (DOB 02/15/88), of Thousand Oaks, Jaime Mendoza Avila (DOB 10/02/81), of Porterville, and Cristian Lopez Perez (DOB 02/11/91), of Los Angeles, are the six charged members of the "E-Bike Crew" wildlife trafficking organization (WTO).

California Department of Fish & Wildlife investigated the "E-Bike Crew" discovering that they worked with Reyes Guerrero to fraudulently reprint hunting licenses and tags.

"This guilty plea is a testament to the intensive and thorough investigation on the part of our wildlife officers in combination with support from the Ventura District Attorney's Office investigators and prosecutors," said David Bess, Chief of the Law Enforcement Division and Deputy Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

An early disposition conference for the six WTO members is scheduled for April 6, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 12 of the Ventura County Superior Court.

## **Defendant Information:**

Juventino Reyes Guerrero (DOB 09/11/78) Piru

## Charges Pled Guilty to:

- (2 counts) PC 182 (a)(1) Conspiracy to commit a crime
- (4 counts) PC 115(a) Filing a false or forged document