




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NEWS RELEASE

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Father Pleads Guilty for His Role in Killing of 3-Year-Old Daughter

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Omar Misael Lopez (DOB 2/5/1985) of Oxnard has pleaded guilty to one count of felony child endangerment and one count of perjury for his part in the killing of his 3-year-old daughter Kimberly Chavez Lopez (DOB 6/17/2012) in June 2015. Lopez has also agreed to testify truthfully in the case pending against Kimberly’s mother, Mayra Alejandra Chavez (DOB 10/4/1991).

In February and July 2016, Child and Family Services (“CFS”) received allegations made anonymously of neglect regarding Lopez’s and Chavez’s care of their children. When neither Lopez nor Chavez could provide CFS officials with information regarding Kimberly’s whereabouts, the Oxnard Police Department and the Ventura County District Attorney’s Office Child Abduction Unit were notified. They conducted an extensive investigation and learned that Kimberly had not been seen since March 2015. Eventually, it was determined Kimberly was deceased.

At the conclusion of other proceedings, it is expected Lopez will be sentenced to 14 years in prison. The preliminary hearing for Chavez is currently set for Thursday, April 19, 2018, in Courtroom 13 of the Ventura Superior Court, County of Ventura, at 8:30 a.m.

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The Ventura County District Attorney’s Office is the public prosecutor for the county’s 850,000 residents. The office employs approximately 280 employees including attorneys, investigators, victim advocates, and other professional support staff who strive to seek justice, ensure public safety, and protect the rights of crime victims.

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