



GREGORY D. TOTTEN
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Oxnard Gang Member Found Guilty of First Degree Murder

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced that Abraham Gonzalez (DOB 10-12-95), of Oxnard, was found guilty of first degree murder yesterday for the shooting death of Austin Martin on February 23, 2014. The jury also found true the allegation that the defendant personally discharged a firearm causing the victim's death. Prior to the trial, the defendant admitted two additional allegations that he was an active member of a criminal street gang, and that the offense was carried out to further the activities of a criminal street gang.

Martin was visiting friends in the garage of a home on Juniper Street in Oxnard on the evening of February 23, 2014, when the defendant approached the open garage and tried to incite a confrontation by pointing a gun at them and asking, "Where you from?" After Martin and his friends told the defendant that they were not gang members, the defendant invoked the name of his gang and fired several rounds at the occupants inside the garage. Martin, who had been sitting on a couch inside the garage, died from a single gunshot wound to his head. The case was investigated by Oxnard Police Department.

Sentencing is set for July 19, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in courtroom 45. Gonzalez faces a maximum sentence of life without the possibility of parole.

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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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