



GREGORY D. TOTTE
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Inmate Charged with Murder in Jail Death

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Vu Cong Dao (DOB 03/04/1983), of Palmdale, has been charged with murder in the death of Michael Torres, of Oxnard, while the two were in custody at the Ventura County jail. On the evening October 25, 2018, at the Ventura County Main Jail in the city of Ventura, Mr. Torres was found beaten and strangled to death in his jail cell. Dao, his cellmate, was later arrested for the killing. Dao was in custody after being arrested and charged with a felony commercial burglary that took place on October 18, 2018, in Camarillo.

Dao is currently in custody pending bail of \$2 million. Arraignment has been continued to November 26, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in courtroom 14 of the Ventura Superior Court, County of Ventura.

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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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