



GREGORY D. TOTTE
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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Defendant Pleads Guilty to Manslaughter in Metrolink Fatality

VENTURA, California – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today that Jose Alejandro Sanchez-Ramirez (DOB 9/26/60), of Yuma, Arizona, pled guilty to misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter. The charges stem from the February 24, 2015, Metrolink grade-crossing collision and train derailment in Oxnard, in which train engineer Glenn William Steele was killed and others were injured.

Sanchez-Ramirez was southbound on Rice Avenue approaching 5th Street in Oxnard at approximately 5:30 a.m. after traveling from Arizona. He made a right turn short of the intersection onto the railroad tracks and continued driving his truck towing a trailer until it became immobilized. Sanchez-Ramirez abandoned his vehicle and did not notify authorities of his predicament prior to the collision.

Sanchez-Ramirez is scheduled to be sentenced July 24, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. in courtroom 14 of the Ventura Superior Court, County of Ventura. He faces up to one year in jail.

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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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