

GREGORY D. TOTTEN District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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CRIMINAL CHARGES FILED FOR KILLING OF MOUNTAIN LION

VENTURA, *California* – District Attorney Gregory D. Totten announced today the filing of criminal charges against Alfredo Gonzalez (DOB: 01/12/59), of Simi Valley, for the killing of a protected mammal, namely a mountain lion known as P-38, and for the vandalism to its collar. National Park Service (NPS) biologists studying the population have collected GPS-enabled radio collar data to study mountain lions for more than a decade. P-38 was a male mountain lion born in 2012. First collared in 2015, this animal predominantly roamed portions of the Santa Susana Mountains.

On July 10, 2019, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife received a report from the NPS that collared mountain lion P-38 may have been killed in Simi Valley after a mortality signal was detected on July 2, 2019. It was ultimately determined that the mountain lion died of a gunshot wound to the head. It is unlawful to kill a mountain lion without a permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Gonzalez will be arraigned on October 9, 2019, in courtroom 11 of the Ventura Superior Court, County of Ventura, located at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, 93003.

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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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