



ERIK NASARENKO

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NEWS RELEASE



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Moorpark Gang Member Convicted of Assault with Deadly Weapon on Hiking Trail

VENTURA, Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Alfredo Vasquez (DOB 07/27/99), of Moorpark, has been convicted by a jury for a gang attack on a Simi Valley hiking trail. The jury found Vasquez guilty on June 4, 2025, of assault with a deadly weapon and found true the special allegations of the crime being gang related and causing great bodily injury in commission of a felony. Judge Paul Baelly found true three additional aggravating factors: the crime involved great violence, the defendant was armed with and used a weapon, and the defendant has engaged in violent conduct.

On July 9, 2020, a man was hiking with a friend at the Simi Valley Cross trail when they encountered several groups of people walking uphill. Among them were two males, one of whom was later identified as Vasquez. As the two parties passed each other, Vasquez issued a common gang challenge, "Where you from?". When the victim verbally responded, Vasquez ran at him with a knife. During the struggle, Vasquez stabbed the victim twice in the chest and slashed his forearm, leaving him with serious injuries.

The victim managed to escape, fleeing down the trail and into a nearby residential neighborhood where he knocked on a stranger's door for help. He was transported to Los Robles Hospital where he received multiple staples for his wounds, which left permanent scarring.

During the investigation, Simi Valley Police Department detectives recovered the victim's white T-shirt, stained with Vasquez's blood, and a grey T-shirt that DNA testing connected to Vasquez. Surveillance footage from a nearby residence showed the victim fleeing the area shirtless and bleeding, followed minutes later by two individuals walking away from the trail, including one who matched Vasquez's description and was also shirtless at the time.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Hayley Moyer, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Major Crime Gang Unit, prosecuted the case.

“Ventura County residents should feel safe and secure while hiking on our beautiful trails, not worried about encountering gang violence,” Ms. Moyer said. “We would like to thank the jurors for their careful and thoughtful deliberation, holding the defendant accountable for this vicious, gang-motivated attack.”

Vasquez is scheduled to be sentenced on July 3, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in courtroom 26 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He remains in custody without bail and faces 14 years in state prison.

Case: 2021021945

Defendant Information:

Alfredo Vasquez (DOB 07/27/99)
Moorpark

Charges convicted of:

- PC 245(a)(1) – Assault with deadly weapon

Special Allegations:

- PC 186.22(b)(1)(C) – Violent felony street gang activity
- PC 12022.7(a) – GBI in commission of a felony
- CRC 4.421(a)(1) – The crime involved great violence
- CRC 4.421(a)(2) – The defendant was armed with and used a weapon
- CRC 4.421(b)(1) – Defendant has engaged in violent conduct

